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Internment plaque unveiled in Sicamous, B.C.

See page 3

Odynsky's fate lies with select cabinet committee

Voices raised in liberal caucus against revocation of his citizenship

By Marco Levytsky

As this issue of Ukrainian News was going to press, the fate of Wasyl Odynsky was being determined by a select group of cabinet members.

On May 1, Citizenship and Immigration Minister Denis Coderre recommended to cabinet that Odynsky be stripped of his Canadian citizenship after more than 50 years in this country because a judge found that "on the balance of probabilities" Odynsky lied about his wartime past upon entering Canada.

This recommendation was made despite the fact that Justice Andrew Mackay also ruled that there was no evidence Odynsky had committed any war crimes and it was clear that he was coerced into serving as a perimeter camp guard under threat of death and imprisonment of his family in a Nazi concentration camp.

When Canada's Justice Department first announced the policy of denaturalization and deportation of alleged war criminals in 1995, it stated in a press release that: "The key criterion in all these proceedings is the existence of some evidence of individual criminality. If that cannot be proven, no proceedings will be considered."

When Ukrainian News contacted the office of the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration to inquire about the Odynsky case, we were told that all inquiries about it were to be handled by Terry Beitner, Head of the War Crimes Unit of the Department of Justice and its Chief Counsel.

When Beitner returned the phone call of Ukrainian News, he was asked why he is the spokesman for the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration, and replied that his office is "carrying on the litigation on their behalf" and is acting in partnership with the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration.

When repeatedly asked about the 1995 press release relating to evidence of individual crimes, Beitner repeatedly replied that government policy is to go after respondents who may have participated "directly or indirectly" in atrocities.

When asked whether a perimeter camp guard who had been coerced into serving could be prosecuted, Beitner replied his office judges each case on the individual merits.

The recommended revocation of Odynsky's citizenship was scheduled to be the first item on the agenda of the Cabinet Special Committee of Council, meeting at 3:30 pm (Ottawa time), June 12.

The Chair of the committee is Don Boudria, Leader of the Government in the House of Commons, Deputy Chair is Martin Cauchon, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada.

Ex-officio members include John Manley, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and Minster of Infrastructure, Lucienne Robillard, The President of Treasury Board and responsible for Crown Corporations, Lyle Vanclief, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, Herb Dhaliwal, Minister of Natural Resources, Robert Nault, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Denis Coderre, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, Senator Sharon Carstairs, Leader of the Government in the Senate, Robert Thibault, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and Ralph Goodale, Minister of Public Works and Government Services, Minster responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board and Federal Interlocutor for Metis and Non-Status Indians.

This group of cabinet members alone has the right to decide Odynsky's citizenship status. Their decision is not subject to appeal.

Cont. on P. 3

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PHOTO — MACRO LEVYTSKY

Delegates to the Southwest region policy session of the Ontario wing of the Liberal Party of Canada vote for the Citizenship Resolution.

Liberal delegates overwhelmingly reject D and D process

By Marco Levytsky

Delegates to the Ontario wing of the Liberal Party of Canada have overwhelmingly supported a resolution that calls upon the government to reject the current process for the revocation of citizenship and replace it with one which is more just.

"Be it Resolved that the Government of Canada ensure that in cases of citizenship revocation, questions of fact and law, and guilt or innocence must be determined by the normal judicial process, free of political interference," states the resolution passed almost unanimously by close to 200 voting delegates at the Southwest region policy session of the Liberal Party, held in Toronto, June 1.

Ukrainian News counted only one vote against this resolution. Every other vote was in favour. The resolution also became the top priority resolution from that policy session.

Delegates were asked to prioritize the top 10 resolutions by giving them anywhere from one to 10 votes in priority sequence.

The citizenship resolution received 777 priority points from the Southwest region— over 50 percent more than the second place resolution, which had 512.

The resolution also states that the current citizenship revocation process (also known as denaturalization and deportation) does not allow fundamental justice, promised in the Charter of Rights to naturalized Canadians because it denies them the right of appeal in the case of citizenship revocation, a right that is automatic in civil and criminal proceedings or can be permitted by a higher court.

"In the present process, Cabinet makes the final decision on revocation in secret, with no representation for the person whose citizenship is being revoked and no review. It must be divested of a role for which it is unsuited, namely acting as a court of appeal in these cases. This process should be put in the hands of the courts where it belongs. Judges should be accountable to a higher court and not to politicians. Decisions affecting the human rights of a person should not be subject to political influence," stated the resolution.

The same resolution was passed earlier by the British Columbia wing of the Liberal Party and is already on the agenda for the national convention.

"The question is not whether this is going to the national convention. The question is whether it is going as a joint resolution," Kitchener-Waterloo MP Andrew Telegdi, whose riding association introduced the resolution, told Ukrainian News.

The B.C. resolution was number one on the priority list of the policy committee and number seven on the overall priority list.

The resolution was introduced by Bardish Chagger, president of the Kitchener-Waterloo Young Liberals, who said the decision to revoke one's citizenship should be a judicial one with a normal right to appeal

"The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms should apply to all Canadians all the time, I encourage you to support equal rights for all Canadians," she added.

Under the debating rules for the policy session two more speakers were allowed for and against the resolution. Nobody spoke against.

Jonathan English said the 6 million Canadians who are immigrants "deserve the right to every legal recourse that we can provide on an issue so fundamental as the right to live in Canada."

The last speaker, Telegdi, said 27 groups supported the changes to the citizenship act, including B'nai B'rith and the Islamic Humanitarian Services.

"What is being asked for is nothing special. What is being asked for is that people whose citizenship is threatened receive nothing more than the normal judicial process free of political interference," he said

"What we are asking for is what every other democratic nation has accepted, including the Americans — that questions of human rights of civil rights be left to the courts free of political interference because it is the right to the (protection) of the Charter of Rights for all Canadians that makes us all equal," Telegdi added.

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Пленум СКУ розглянув питання посилення свого впливу на східні діаспори

Мирослава Гонгадзе, *Радіо Свобода*

Днями в Торонто відбувся пленум Світового Конґресу Українців, який розглянув питання посилення впливу цієї організації на східні Українські діаспори. Великим дискусійним питанням для СКУ, в ряди якого входять сотні українських організацій, є те, що донедавна ця спілка організацій представляла, в основному, західну українську діаспору. Після здобуття незалежності, українці в східних землях, як то в Росії, чи Казахстані, почали виявляти свою самоідентифікацію. Почали створювати численні організації, які, зрештою, все одно розраховували на підтримку західної діаспори.

На останньому пленумі СКУ, що відбувся днями в Торонто, до лав організації були прийняті крайові представництва українців у Сербії, Грузії, Угорщині, Вірменії та Чеській республіці.

Окремим питанням на пленумі було обговорення останніх подій в Україні, а саме, вибори керівництва Верховної Ради та останні політичні блокування в парламенті. Пленум ухвалив звернення до демократичних сил в Україні, наголошуючи на пересторогах щодо блокування з Комуністичною партією України. Пам'ятаючи свого одвічного ворога – комуністів, західна діаспора пробує застерегти від помилок своїх колег і побратимів в Україні.

Ось, як пояснює рішення пленуму Голова СКУ Аскольд Лозинський: «Ця, так звана, спікеріада, нас не дуже влаштовувала. Не тому, що ми не вдоволені вибором одного чи другого кандидата, хоч ми не вважаємо, що найкращим кандидатом на цю посаду був Володимир Литвин. Я думаю, що він, в основному, не є незалежною людиною, а людиною, яка буде прямо виконувати все, що йому скаже адміністрація президента. Ми також невдоволені блокуванням у парламенті. Ми не маємо нічого проти, щоб блокувалися «Наша Україна» з Юлією Тимошенко, ну, це можемо пережити блокування з Олександром Морозом, але ми не можемо сприйняти блокування із Симоненком. Більше того, коли взяти до уваги, що комуністи і так кілька разів виявилися нетривкими партнерами, я думаю, що це була наука до якоїсь міри для пана Віктора Ющенка і «Нашої України», але, на жаль, ця наука коштує досить багато».

Отож, українська діаспора у світі, незадоволена подіями в Україні, старається хоча б якось вплинути на внутрішньополітичні процеси. Але здається, що виплутатись з кризи українці в Україні будуть вимушені самостійно.

Комітет американського Конґресу розглянув питання допомоги Україні

Мирослава Гонгадзе, *Радіо Свобода*

Перед конґресменами в американській столиці свідчив Президент Українського Конґресового Комітету Америки Михайло Савків.

159 мільйонів доларів США така сума допомоги Україні на 2003 фінансовий рік розглядається комісією з асигнувань американського Конґресу. Гроші мають бути виділені на розбудову громадського сектору, на розвиток сільського господарства, ліквідацію наслідків Чорнобильської катастрофи, на програми ядерної безпеки та інші суспільні сектори та галузі економіки , розвиток яких в Україні підтримується зі сторони Америки.

Цьогорічна пропозиція Президента, виділити Україні 159 мільйонів доларів майже на 20 мільйонів менша ніж минулого року. Спостерігачі зазначають, що можливо таке рішення було прийнято через бажання президента відповідати вимогам Конґресу, члени якого вважають, що Україна повинна продемонструвати поступ у демократичних реформах, розслідуванні гучних злочинів проти журналістів та політиків та боротьбі з корупцією. Нагадаю, що минулого року навколо цього питання точились серйозні дебати, тоді Конґрес мав намір скоротити фінансову допомогу Україні *майже на 50 мільйонів доларів.*

Президент УККА Михайло Савків, що свідчив перед конґресовою комісією з асигнувань вважає.

«Минулого року була досить важка боротьба щодо закордонної допомоги Україні. Цього року президент Буш дає свою рекомендацію на 159 мільйонів доларів. Ми, як Український Конґресовий Комітет і українська громада, підтримуємо цю пропозицію. Ми б хотіли, щоб ця закордонна допомога збільшилася. Але в бюджетному процесі важко знайти більше грошей, які ми б хотіли дати Україні. Тобто ми готові на пропозицію президента Буша.»

Узгодження суми асигнувань на 2003 рік Україні між Адміністрацією та Конгресом триває. Та експерти прогнозують, що сума допомоги Україні не опуститься нижче 150 мільйонів доларів США.

Кримська міліція заявляє, що розкрила резонансне убивство 4 осіб у Симферополі

Володимир Притула, *Радіо Свобода*

Лише доба знадобилася кримським правоохоронцям, щоб розкрити резонансне убивство 4-х осіб, що сталося 6 червня у Симферополі. 8-го червня начальник кримської міліції генерал Микола Паламарчук заявив, що затримано одного з підозрюваних у цьому злочині, і визначено особу другого.

Міліція і прокуратура Криму в результаті спільної операції розкрили злочин, пов'язаний з розстрілом чотирьох осіб у Симферополі, що стався минулого тижня. Про це у неділю повідомив начальник кримського главку МВС України генерал-лейтенант Микола Паламарчук. Як виявилося, до злочину причетний один із колишніх кандидатів у депутати Верховної Ради АРК. Каже начальник Центру громадських зв'язків кримської міліції Олександр Домбровський: "6-го червня було здійснено зухвалий резонансний злочин: у місті Симферополі на вулиці Шалфейній, 1, в офісі ремонтно-будівельного підприємства "Пірс" вчинено розстріл 4-х осіб. На сьогодні відомо, що злочинців було двоє. Одного з них органи правопорядку затримали ще 7 червня увечері. У нього вилучили певну суму грошей в іноземній валюті й гривнях, вилучили знаряддя злочину – газовий пістолет, перероблений для стріляння бойовими патронами з глушником", - повідомив підполковник Домбровський.

Крім того, встановлено особу другого нападника: "Це – Олександр Сергійович Сорокін, 71 року народження, юрист за освітою, який балотувався на останніх виборах до Верховної Ради Криму в окрузі №40. Сорокін – дуже контактна особа, він мав широкі зв'язки, переважно з жінками – секретарями, бухгалтерами, іншими особами, які могли надати йому потрібну інформацію", повідомив начальник Центру громадських зв'язків кримської міліції.

За даними правоохоронців, злочинці тривалий час стежили за працівниками фірми "Пірс", Їм було відомо, що напередодні її директор зняв у банку солідну суму грошей і вона була в офісі. Під час нападу злочинці спершу 4-ма пострілами убили трьох присутніх у кімнаті осіб, забрали гроші і збиралися утекти. Але в цей час до офісу увійшов підприємець, партнер власника фірми. Зав'язалася бійка, злочинці випустили у нього 11 куль.

Зараз слідство триває, Олександра Сорокіна оголошено у розшук. В Симферополі міліція переведена на посилену форму служби. Пан Домбровський каже, що правоохоронці навмисно дають якнайширшу інформацію про цей злочин і злочинців, сподіваючись, що населення сприятиме у пошуку одного з підозрюваних.

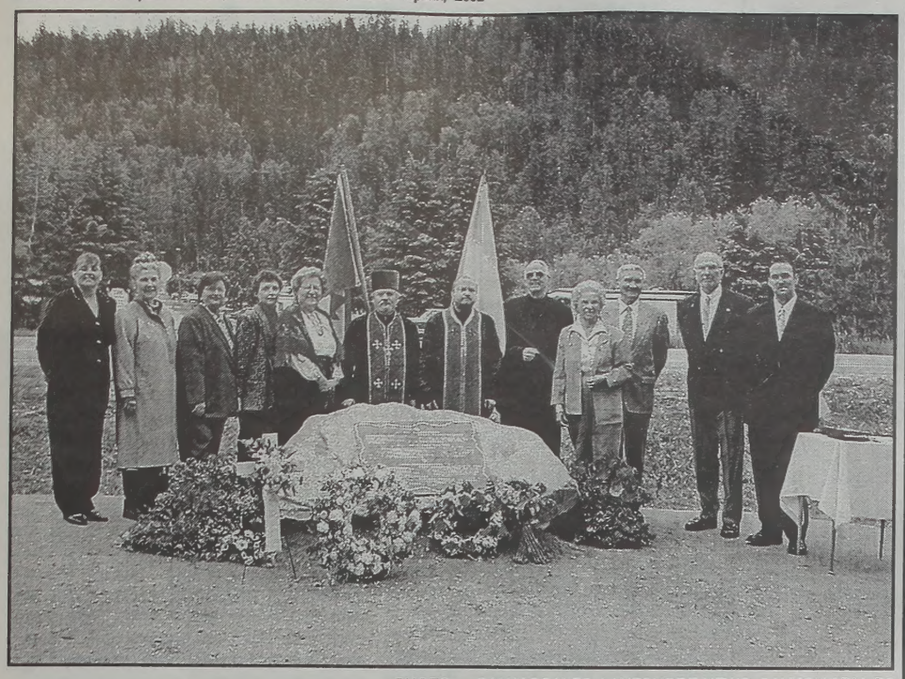


PHOTO — SALLY SCALES, LAKESHORE NEWS, SALMON ARM, BC

Participating in the hour-long ceremony, from left: MC Andrea Malysh of the Vernon branch of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress; Susan Anderson, parliamentary assistant to MP Darrell Stinson of Vernon; Maureen Kalynchuk of Scotch Creek, chair of the North Okanagan-Shuswap School District; Rhona Martin of the Columbia Shuswap Regional District; Gena Crowston of Kamloops, representing MP Betty Hinton and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Kamloops; Very Rev. Pawlo Berezniak of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Vernon and Kelowna; Rev. Stefan Basarab of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Vernon, Grindrod and Revelstoke; Subdeacon Paul Malysh of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Vernon; Kari Moore of Victoria, writer of the poem "Internment"; Gordon Mackie of the Sicamous & District Museum & Historical Society; Fred Busch, mayor of Sicamous; and Jay Schlossar, executive assistant for MLA George Abbott, minister of multiculturism for British Columbia.

Internment plaque unveiled in Sicamous, B.C.

(UCCLA)—During Canada's first national internment operations of 1914-1920, thousands of Ukrainians and other Europeans were needlessly imprisoned as "enemy aliens" in Canadian concentration camps.

Seven out of the 24 internment camps, established following passage of The War Measures Act, were located in British Columbia. These include the Monashee-Mara Lake camps, operated between June 2, 1915 and 29 July 1917.

A trilingual historical marker was unveiled at the original camp site, Two Mile, near Sicamous, BC, June 8.

Commenting on this project, Andrea Malysh, representing the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association, said: "In times of domestic and international crisis, the civil liberties and human rights of ethnic, religious and racial minorities have sometimes been tragically ignored.

"In Canada, the passage of The War Measures Act, in 1914, resulted in the rounding up and internment of thousands of innocent Ukrainians and other Europeans, men, women and children who had done no wrong but who were imprisoned only because of where they had come from.

"Forced to do heavy labour, what little wealth they had confiscated, and they were subjected to various other state-sanctioned censures, including restrictions on their freedom of movement, association and speech. Many were disenfranchised, and some were deported following the war.

"This unhappy episode in Canadian history must be recalled if we are to ensure that what happened to Ukrainian Canadians in the First World War period, and to our fellow Japanese Canadians in the Second World War, and to some citizens of Quebec in 1970, does not happen again. This is particularly important in the wake of the horrors that befell our society on September 11th last year.

"While we must remain vigilant in our war against terrorism, we can not allow our societies to become vigilante when dealing with Canadians of other ethnic and religious backgrounds. Canada is an inclusive society and must remain that way. Recalling this tragic past is a step we can all take to ensure that wrongs done in the past are not repeated in our future."

This commemorative event was made possible through the efforts of the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association, supported by the Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko and the Ukrainian Canadian community of British Columbia.

"Our Ukraine" asks president to help resolve Poltava Church conflict

(RISU.org.ua)—Parties that belong to the political bloc "Our Ukraine" in central-eastern Ukraine's Poltava region sent an open letter to Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma and Prime Minister Anatoliy Kinakh.

They asked for assistance in resolving the conflict between the Ukrainian Orthodox churches of the Moscow and Kyivan patriarchates over the Church of St. Nicholas in Poltava.

This news was reported on June 6 by the electronic news agency "Part.org.ua" with reference to the electronic newspaper "Ukrainian News."

As RISU reported on May 31, parishioners of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church-Kyivan Patriarchate accused the Moscow Patriarchate of attempting to seize the church.

"To prevent bloodshed, the authorities must ensure that the rights of the parishioners are protected from the attacks of the Moscow Patriarchate," the letter states.

Seven priests of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church-Moscow Patriarchate (UOC-MP), leading a group of militant youths, seized St. Nicholas Church of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church-Kyivan Patriarchate (UOC-KP) in Poltava on May 26.

The youths blocked the entrance to the church, not letting anybody in or out, while the priests were conducting a Liturgy inside. They also beat up Fr. Hryhorii of St. Panteleimon Church (UOC-KP), who tried to interfere and was consequently hospitalized.

The parishioners of St. Nicholas Church issued a statement accusing the police and the representative of the Department of Religious Matters of the Poltava Regional Administration, who witnessed the events, of not stepping in to help. Seeking protection, the community also sent a letter to Kuchma and Kinakh.

Odynsky's fate lies with select cabinet committee

Cont. from P. 1

However, should the decision to revoke his citizenship be made, Odynsky has the right to go before a refugee and immigration review board to argue against deportation.

Reportedly there was a heated discussion over the Odynsky affair in the Liberal caucus the morning of the cabinet committee meeting with many members speaking out against the revocation of his citizenship.

As well copies of this issue's Ukrainian News editorial pointing out that grassroots Liberals were opposed to the D & D process were circulated among the members of the federal liberal caucus.

An advance copy of this issue's editorial had been sent by electronic mail to Kitchener-Waterloo MP Andrew Telegdi the previous day.

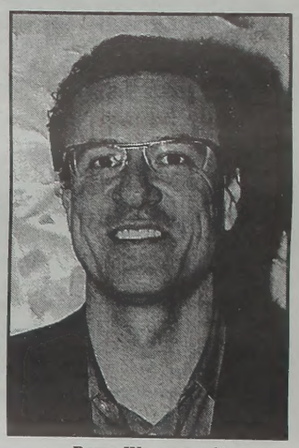
We also learned that on that same morning Minister Manley's office had been in touch with Borys Wrzesnewski, President of the Etobicoke-Lakeshore federal Liberal riding association in Toronto, regarding the Odynsky case.

Wrzesnewski had raised this issue during the accountability session of the Annual General Meeting of the Ontario Branch of the Liberal Party of Canada.

In a question directed at Manley (since Coderre being a member of the Quebec wing was not present), Wrzesnewski stated:

"In January of 1995 the Honourable Allan Rock, minister of justice, announced a long overdue federal war crimes strategy. He made it clear at the time, and I am quoting from government documents: 'The key criterion in all these proceedings is the existence of some evidence of individual criminality. If that cannot be proven, no proceedings will be considered.'

"In March of last year, in the case of Mr. Wasyl Odynsky, the Honourable Judge, Mr. Andrew MacKay, concluded there was no evidence Mr. Odynsky voluntarily joined the SS Auxiliary, in fact was arrested and forced to join under threat of death. Neither was he was involved in any incident that was wrongful against any forced labour prisoner or any persons.



Borys Wrzesnewski

"Also there is no evidence of any wrongdoing by Mr. Odynsky in the 50 years since he arrived in Canada. In fact, Mr. Odynsky and his wife, a former slave labourer were Nazi victims.

"Why then is the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration recommending the revocation of Mr. Odynsky's citizenship of May 1 of this year under Canada's war crimes legislation with no recourse to the courts? Are we perhaps not victimizing the victims of Nazis, 50 years later, in Canada?"

Manley replied that he was hesitant to answer a question on a specific case, but would take it under advisement and follow up.

Договір про кордон між Україною і Росією буде підписаний наприкінці року

(Кореспондент.net)—Україна і Росія домовилися наприкінці 2002 року підписати угоду про державний кордон на сухопутній ділянці. Про це повідомив глава пресслужби Міністерства закордонних справ Сергій Бороденков, передають "Українські Новини".

За його словами, таке рішення було прийнято на третьому засіданні підкомісії з прикордонних питань українсько-російської Комісії зі співробітництва, яке проходило в Москві 7-8 травня.

Українську частину підкомісії очолював державний секретар МЗС Юрій Сергеєв, російську - перший заступник міністра закордонних справ В'ячеслав Трубников.

Сторони також домовилися прискорити переговори про морську ділянку кордону і визначити правовий статус розмежування Азовського моря і Керченської протоки.

Крім того, Україна і Росія погодилися з необхідністю спростити режим перетинання державного кордону громадянами двох країн.

Вони також висловили намір до кінця 2002 року підписати договір про порядок перетинання державного кордону громадянами, які проживають у прикордонних районах, а також договір про прийняття-передачу осіб, які незаконно перетнули кордон.

Наступне засідання підкомісії з прикордонних питань пройде в листопаді в Києві.

Зазначимо, що торік Україна і Росія завершили делімітацію (визначення по карті) сухопутного кордону, що тривала з 1998 року.

До липня цього року Україна сподівається завершити визначення місць проходження кордону з Росією по Азовському морю.

У квітні посол Росії в Україні Віктор Черномирдін заявив, що Росія виступає проти демаркації (фактичної облаштованості) українсько-російського кордону.

США, ООН закінчили перевірку нелегального експорту української зброї

(Українська правда)—Нове засідання Ради національної безпеки та оборони України, заздалегідь призначене на 12 червня, буде присвячене ревізії політики військово-технічної співпраці України з іноземними державами.

Як повідомили агентству Defense-Express в РНБОУ, основним питанням роботи Ради, крім аналізу результатів виконання задач, поставлених торішнім засіданням РНБОУ, стане підведення підсумків перевірок виконання Україною міжнародних зобов'язань в сфері передач озброєнь та військової техніки на світовому ринку озброєнь.

Джерела в РНБОУ вказують, що на сьогоднішній день вже відомі результати перевірок можливого постачання з боку Ради безпеки ООН та Держдепартаменту США. Також завершені перевірки СБУ, Міноборони та МЗС України. Всі вони свідчать про те, що обвинувачення України в нелегальному експорті зброї не підтвердилися. Рада безпеки вказує, що саме з цим пов'язане перенесення засідання РНБОУ, яке раніше планувалося провести в травні.

При цьому фахівці РНБОУ констатують, що обвинувачення України відносно порушень завдали істотних збитків іміджу держави-спецекспортера. Це примушує задуматися, чи варто державним органам втягуватися в інформаційні перестрілки, якщо обвинувачення ініційовані виключно засобами масової інформації та не носять офіційного характеру? Саме так було з ситуацією навколо "псевдопоставок" до Іраку.

Ще однією серйозною проблемою є питання, якими повинні бути превентивні заходи держави (і чи повинні вони бути), покликані, якщо не виключити, то хоч би мінімізувати потік обвинувачень.

У той же час, вказують джерела в РНБОУ, український збройовий експорт навіть після інформаційних кампаній не має тенденції до скорочення, при цьому зберігається інша важлива позитивна тенденція, характерна для 2001 р. і першого кварталу 2002 р.: близько 70% озброєнь, послуг і військової техніки, що реалізовуються, є продукцією національних заводів ОПК і лише близько 30% складають ВВТ з арсеналів Збройних сил України.

На думку експертів Центра досліджень армії, конверсії і роззброєння, мас-медійні війни 2002 року продемонстрували уразливість інформаційного простору України, це повинно стимулювати владу до створення спеціальних структур, що займаються аналізом та прогнозуванням в області військово-технічної співпраці. Найімовірніше, вказують експерти, в Україні може бути посилений контроль за організацією експорту зброї та чутливих технологій, наприклад, шляхом введення дозвільної системи на ведення переговорів. Ситуацію, як вважають в ЦДАКР, також може поліпшити активна робота на рівні парламенту, що, по-перше, повинно передбачати появу законів в сфері ВТС та експортного контролю, а по-друге, щорічних доповідей про реалізовані операції на ринку зброї.

Перше підтвердить наявність парламентського контролю за цією сферою, а друге продемонструє певну прозорість самої сфери ВТС і, відповідно, істотно зменшить рівень негативних наслідків від інформаційних кампаній проти України як учасника світовому ринку озброєнь, упевнені представники ЦДАКР. Експерти неурядового дослідницького Центру також упевнені, що обвинувачення на адресу України викликані передусім різким зростанням конкуренції на пострадянському сегменті світового ринку озброєнь. Зокрема, такі держави як Польща, Чехія, Словаччина, Болгарія, Білорусія та ряд інших різко збільшили активність на ринку зброї, а деяким з них вдалося укласти досить значні контракти на ринках, де працюють українські спецекспортери.

Як підкреслюють в ЦДАКР, ще однією проблемою для України як експортера озброєнь і військової техніки стане знаходження компромісу відносно ВТС з низкою держав - у зв'язку з бажанням інтегруватися до НАТО. Нагадавши про тиск альянсу на Київ у зв'язку з постачанням озброєнь, послуг та військової техніки в Македонію (відносно чого не було ніяких обмежень), експерти не виключають, що, на догоду політиці, Києву доведеться піти на обмеження ВТС з деякими державами.

Численні порушення закону під час проведення земельної реформи на Прикарпатті

Іван Костюк, *Радіо Свобода*

За підсумками проведеної перевірки обласна прокуратура повідомила про численні порушення закону під час проведення земельної реформи на Прикарпатті. В результаті порушено більше десятка кримінальних справ, накладено штрафи на сотні тисяч гривень.

Керівництво Івано-Франківської обласної прокуратури заявило, що працівники державної землевпорядної служби в регіоні не фіксували численні порушення закону під час проведення земельної реформи на Прикарпатті. У результаті перевірки, здійсненої фахівцями обласної прокуратури, виявлено численні факти гострих порушень при розподілі землі передовсім із боку сільських голів. У більшості випадків вони передавали земельні ділянки громадянам на підставі фіктивних рішень. Земельні ділянки отримували також приватні підприємці без укладення угод про оренду. Державні службовці, які мали контролювати находження відповідних коштів за оренду землі, привласнювали їх. Представники прокуратури також заявили, що із двохсот тисяч осіб, які отримали сертифікати на земельну частку в регіоні, лише третина має державні акти на право власності. За матеріалами перевірки прокуратура області порушила 12 кримінальних справ та надіслала до суду позовні заяви на загальну суму понад півмільйона гривень. Стосовно 15-ти посадових осіб складено протоколи про корупційні правопорушення. 77 порушників законодавства про земельну реформу притягнуто до різних видів судової відповідальності. В обласній прокуратурі також наголосили, що ситуація довкола проведення земельної реформи на Івано-Франківщині характеризується численними порушеннями через те, що в області катастрофічно бракує сільськогосподарських земель, придатних для використання.

УНСОвців з-за грат буде витягувати парламентська комісія

(Українська правда/Інтерфакс-Україна)—Народний депутат України, колишній лідер УНА-УНСО Андрій Шкіль вніс до Верховної Ради проект постанови про створення парламентської комісії, яка б зайнялася розслідуванням подій 9 березня 2000 року у Києві.

Як повідомив Шкіль 11-го червня на прес-конференції у Львові, ввійти до складу цієї комісії вже погодилися народні депутати Тарас Чорновіл ("Наша Україна"), Валентина Семенюк (фракція Соцпартії), Степан Хмара (БЮТ) і Сергій Головатий (БЮТ), а очолити її погодився, за словами колишнього лідера УНА-УНСО, Володимир Філенко ("Наша Україна").

Шкіль також заявив, що у Києві проведе переговори з представниками фракцій Компартії і СДПУ(О) про входження їх членів у комісію.

За словами депутата, події 9 березня 2000 року в українській столиці повинні стати об'єктом пильного розгляду у парламенті, оскільки версія правоохоронних органів про організаторів масових порушень у той день "залишається усього лише версією".

Наприклад, повідомив Шкіль, під час судового засідання виявилося, що тільки двоє з більш ніж 30 потерпілих пам'ятають, куди саме їх поранили. На його думку, детальному вивченню підлягає і багато інших аспектів цих подій.

Як повідомлялося, 9 березня минулого року у Києві відбулися зіткнення між учасниками антипрезидентської акції і правоохоронними органами. СБУ порушило кримінальну справу відносно організаторів й активних учасників порушень й арештувала ряд членів УНА-УНСО, в тому числі Шкіля.

Раніше Голосіївський місцевий суд Києва ухвалив рішення про звільнення Шкіля з-під варти у зв'язку з обранням його народним депутатом України. Його справа повинна бути виділена в окреме виробництво і припинена.

У кінці травня з-під варти були звільнені на підписку про невиїзд двоє членів УНА, які обвинувачуються у справі про масові порушення 9 березня, Павло Литвиненко і Денис Андрюсенко.

У СІЗО залишилися 13 обвинувачених членів УНА-УНСО.

Занепад найперспективнішого медіа проекту Івано-Франківщини

Іван Костюк, *Радіо Свобода*

Два роки тому в обласному центрі Прикарпаття була створена муніципальна телерадіокомпанія "Вежа". Цей медіапроект мав стати одним із найбільш інтелектуально насичених та національно спрямованих не лише в західному регіоні, але і в державі загалом.

Радіопрограми "Вежі" планували транслювати також в Інтернеті. Однак перспективний проект так і не вдалося зреалізувати повною мірою. Що ж перешкодило амбітним планам?

Щотижневі радіопрограми відомого сучасного українського письменника Юрія Андруховича про літературу, музику та мандри під назвою "Метафори", щоденні радіоновели культового прозаїка Тараса Прохаська під назвою "Щоденник", інтерв'ю з провідними письменниками, художниками, музикантами, культурологами та політиками – усе це початок роботи івано-франківської телерадіокомпанії "Вежа". Два роки тому цей медіа проект вважався одним із найперспективніших у державі, а можливо, і найкращим. Інтелектуальні, національно спрямовані програми телерадіокомпанії "Вежа" почали слухати на всій Івано-Франківщині. Сучасна європейська музика, фахові коментарі діджеїв, неперевершений стиль ведучих програм – усе це створювало особливу атмосферу. Телерадіокомпанія "Вежа" планувала широко представити свої програми також в Інтернеті. Однак цей проект поступово почав згортатися. "Вежу" залишили талановиті непересічні ведучі авторських програм. Поступово телерадіокомпанія змінила своє спрямування. Зараз телерадіокомпанія "Вежа" – це абсолютно провінційний, як і десятки інших у державі, медіа проект. Чому ж так сталося, що "вежа" не змогла втримати тих позицій, які були задекларовані на початку існування компанії? Про це неодноразово запитували місцеву мерію не лише слухачі та журналісти, але й фахівці з питань радіо та телебачення з інших регіонів країни. Відповідь, звичайно ж, буде неоднозначною. Але основна причина полягає в тому, що івано-франківська мерія втратила зацікавлення в підтримці, і передовсім моральній, цього проекту. Результатом став різкий занепад рівня роботи телерадіокомпанії. Про вихід в Інтернет зараз на "Вежі" вже не йдеться. Риторичними залишаються виступи та думки інтелігенції Прикарпаття, що телерадіокомпанію варто було якимось чином відродити, вивести зі стану кризи.

Ukraine hopes for NATO membership — in the post-Kuchma era

By Taras Kuzio

(RFE/RL)—On May 23, National Security and Defense Council (NROB) Secretary Yevhen Marchuk released an unexpected statement saying that the NROB believes "a long-term strategy must be worked out that would enable Ukraine to join the collective-security system upon which NATO is based." Marchuk added that, "There is no future for Ukraine if it remains outside the bloc."

This announcement came as a surprise because Ukraine's foreign policy has lacked any strategic direction for many years. The 2001-04 Ukrainian state program on cooperation with NATO does not mention full membership of the alliance. Nonetheless, Ukraine has always been the most active CIS state cooperating with NATO; therefore it is not surprising that it is also the first CIS state to openly express membership aspirations. Last year Ukraine undertook 500 activities with NATO — the same number as is planned for this year — in 23 different areas. Georgia and Azerbaijan are the only two other CIS states that also are seeking NATO membership.

Right up until May 23, Ukraine's leaders had ruled out NATO membership as an option for Ukraine. In December 2001, Marchuk repeated what President Leonid Kuchma himself has said on many occasions over the last few years: "What is at issue has nothing to do with bidding for NATO membership in 2002. We are not on the waiting list, and Ukraine's entry into NATO is not an issue today." In February, Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko simply talked about replacing the July 1997 Charter on a Distinctive Partnership Between Ukraine and NATO with a new document, arguing that the charter had been exhausted, particularly in the aftermath of the 11 September terrorist attacks on the United States.

The newspaper "Zerkalo nedeli/Dzerkalo tyzhnya" has argued that Ukrainians should remain cautious about Kuchma's intentions because "this is not the first time that [Marchuk] has made statements like this." At a Moscow summit of CIS foreign ministers at the end of May — just a week after the NROB meeting — Zlenko still spoke only of upgrading Ukraine's relations with NATO. "It is not our ultimate goal...to join this alliance," he stressed.

It is not coincidental that on the same day as the NROB announcement, U.S. President George W. Bush arrived in Moscow, in part to finalize the creation of the 19+1 NATO-Russia Council, which will significantly upgrade Russia's cooperation with NATO. In April, Marchuk half jokingly warned that Russia might join NATO before Ukraine and that "the dynamic of Russian cooperation with NATO is outstripping that of Ukraine."

Fearing being sidelined or, worse still, pushed into the Russian sphere of influence, Ukraine was forced to make a public statement for which former Foreign Minister Borys Tarasiuk, former President Leonid Kravchuk, former Rada speaker Ivan Plyushch and Marchuk — the prime mover behind this decision — had long pushed. Plyushch said earlier this year: "Ukraine has no wish to become either a bridge or a buffer between Russia and NATO, or between Russia and the EU. Ukraine aspires to be a full-fledged partner of these organizations."

Professor Olexiy Haran of the Kyiv Mohyla Academy's Center for National Security Studies believes that the NROB announcement was cleared at a meeting between Kuchma and Russian President Vladimir Putin in Sochi on May 17 prior to its being made public. This hypothesis would seem to be substantiated by the highly mooted responses to the announcement from Putin and Russian Ambassador to Ukraine Viktor Chernomyrdin, who is hardly known for his diplomatic restraint. Kuchma may have offered Putin two palliatives for this move, Ukrainian foreign policy experts have speculated. The first was Ukraine's eventual membership in the Eurasian Economic Community (EES), as Kuchma agreed at Sochi that his country would become an associate member of the organization. Second, unconfirmed rumors have circulated that Ukraine may finally agree to an long-standing Russian demand to extend the current lease for the Black Sea Fleet from 20 to 99 years. Chernomyrdin has argued that the fleet "defends the southern coast of Ukraine."

Marchuk also announced on May 23 that the NROB decision means the end of Ukraine's neutrality and "multi-vector" foreign policy. Neutrality will be easy to ditch since it was never internationally recognized and "has always been more a product of virtual reality," "Zerkalo nedeli/Dzerkalo tyzhnya" wrote. "Multi-vectorism" though, has life in it yet. If Ukraine is going west to NATO, it is also going east to the EES.

The first step toward NATO membership, which Marchuk believes is at least five to 10 years away, is a formal decree and the creation in consultation with NATO of a Membership Action Plan (MAP). This plan is likely to be presented formally to NATO Secretary-General Lord George Robertson when he visits Ukraine on July 7. A MAP will not only require Ukraine to increase its military budget from 1.25 percent to 2 percent of GDP — the NATO norm — but also to undertake profound military reform, to place the military under civilian and democratic control, and to increase its interoperability with NATO. But Defense Minister Volodymyr Shkidchenko cautioned after the NROB announcement that, "at the moment, there is no plan to switch the country's army to NATO standards."

Ukraine will be only the second country (after Norway) not to regard NATO membership as a stepping-stone to the EU. True, Kuchma said after the May 23 NROB meeting that Ukraine's decision to seek NATO membership is "connected with EU integration." "One is impossible without the other," he said flatly. Ukraine's EU aspirations are, however, illusory since the EU refuses to sign an association agreement with Ukraine (or any other CIS state), and Ukraine's domestic reforms entered an "era of stagnation" after Kuchma was elected to a second term in 1999. Even NATO membership will require a greater commitment to democratic and economic reforms than has been evident during Kuchma's second term.

If Ukraine is serious about starting down the road to NATO membership, it must draw up a MAP this year. As Marchuk said, "a Ukrainian application to join now would be ridiculed" unless backed by a MAP. Ukraine is still "very far" from asking to join NATO, Marchuk cautioned. And it is as important to remember that "Ukraine's recent history is full of strategic documents, programs, and conceptual frameworks," "Zerkalo nedeli/Dzerkalo tyzhnya" pointed out, that have never been fully implemented, including two separate decrees on cooperation with NATO and the EU.

The implementation of a MAP requires an ideological commitment of the kind demonstrated by the "Vilnius Ten" lobbing group of Central and Eastern European, Balkan, and Baltic postcommunist states that have opted to "re-join Europe" in deed and not just in words. Marchuk believes that Ukraine needs a consolidation of political forces and "society" in order eventually to join NATO. But no such consolidation can take place until after Kuchma leaves office in 2004, as Ukraine's parliament and parties are split into pro- and anti-presidential camps. Consequently, the May 23 NROB announcement appears to be a declaration of intent that is shorn of ideological commitment — and which will therefore be realized only in the post-Kuchma era.

Dr. Taras Kuzio is a resident fellow at the Centre for Russian and East European Studies, University of Toronto, and is a former director of the Kyiv NATO Information and Documentation Center.

Kyiv wins, loses on Russia deals

By Michael Lelyveld

(RFE/RL)—Ukraine says it has won a 10-year natural-gas transit agreement with Russia but has lost a debt deal that has been in the works for over a year.

The development may again unsettle the strategic issue of Russia's gas transit, which has preoccupied both the European Union and the Kremlin, as well as Poland and Ukraine.

Speaking at a press conference in Kyiv on June 5, Yuriy Boyko, chairman of the national oil-and-gas company Naftogaz Ukrainy, reported success in reaching a long-term agreement on transporting Russian gas through the country's former Soviet pipelines to Europe from 2003 to 2013. A contract has been initialed and will be signed by Prime Ministers Anatoliy Kinakh and Mikhail Kasyanov in Kharkiv on June 21, the UNIAN news agency reported.

The deal could take pressure off Ukraine, which has feared a Russian plan to shift much of its European transit north to Poland through a second line that would be built for Siberian gas. Although the idea has been studied by the EU and its major gas companies, Poland has kept putting it off, easing Kyiv's fears that it could lose revenue and access to subsidized supplies of Russian fuel.

But it is unclear whether the bypass plan is dead or merely dormant because of poor economic and investment conditions. The long-term transit deal could push the question further into the future for Ukraine. Russia supplies about one-fourth of the EU's gas.

But if the transit pact was a success, the debt deal was a massive failure. The issue of Ukraine's US$1.4 billion in arrears for Russian gas was supposed to be settled with bonds issued by Naftogaz Ukrainy and transferred to Russia's gas monopoly Gazprom. Instead, Boyko said, "The situation over the transfer of bonds to Gazprom is somewhat deadlocked," Reuters reported.

The bond settlement was one of the longest-running issues in current relations between Russia and Ukraine, marked by charges that Ukraine had been diverting gas from the transit lines to Europe and President Leonid Kuchma's admission that indeed it had. Russia tried repeatedly but failed to gain control over Ukraine's pipelines.

Tensions over reform of Ukraine's energy sector led to the ouster of Deputy Prime Minister Yuliya Tymoshenko and the appointment of former Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin as ambassador to Ukraine. But the negotiations and machinations all seemed to come to nothing after Boyko and Gazprom revealed that the debt plan had a previously undisclosed tax problem. Before accepting the bonds, Gazprom discovered it would be subject to $700 million in income and excise taxes under Russian law.

In a research comment, United Financial Group analyst Stephen O'Sullivan said, "This is an unfortunate development given that there are no clear alternatives to this securitization, which would have provided Gazprom with a degree of comfort in its attempts to claw back this debt."

Moscow-based UFG is a minority shareholder in Gazprom.

The disclosure may only embarrass Gazprom management, which apparently overlooked the tax problem during all of last year, when the debt deal was negotiated. Gazprom has been refusing to accept the Ukrainian bonds for months, citing vague problems of "documentation" until now.

While Ukraine cannot be blamed for the blunder, it also may not benefit from having the issue left up in the air. The gas-debt and transit deals were long seen as a package affecting the energy security of both Russia and Ukraine, as well as the EU. The unpaid debt may fester as a source of continuing tension. Gazprom is already holding another $1.4 billion in Ukrainian bonds from a similar gas debt in 1994 and 1995.

A closer look at the transit pact also seems to suggest that it is something less than a settled success. According to UNIAN, the agreement does not specify the volumes of transit, the amount of gas to be paid to Ukraine, or the price of supplies. All are subject to protocols, which must be negotiated annually, making it a long-term agreement that has yet to be agreed. A minimum transit volume of 110 billion cubic meters has been specified.

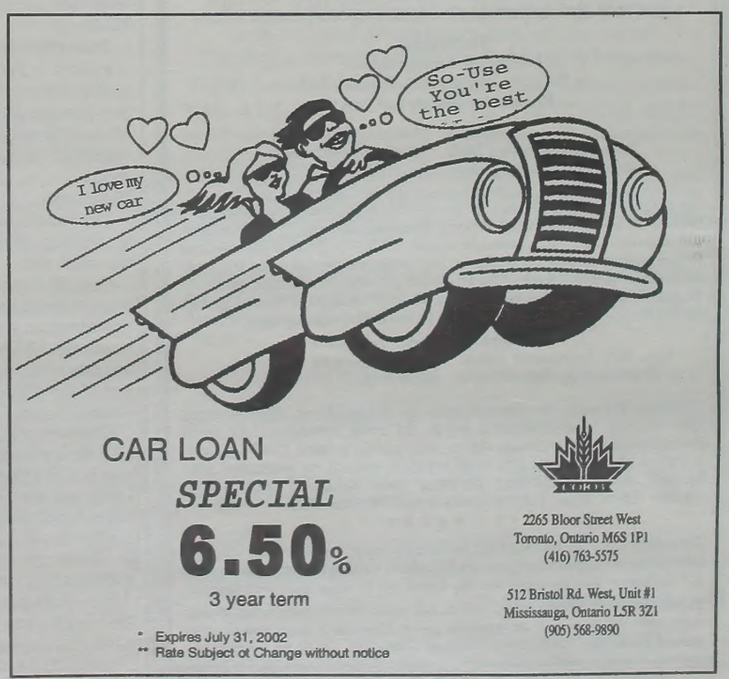
Gazprom exported nearly 127 billion cubic meters outside the CIS last year, according to Interfax. But the Ukrainian system can handle 170 billion cubic meters, leaving the possibility open that Russia could either use Ukraine's extra capacity or turn to Poland again for the growth in its exports to the EU.

That is just the possibility that Ukraine would have liked to foreclose, but there may be little chance of doing so now. Meanwhile, Poland may remain under pressure to accept a bypass plan.

During a visit to Moscow on June 6, Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski told Interfax that his country is still trying to reduce the terms of a gas contract with Russia that commits it to buy a fixed volume of gas by 2020.

Demand has been disappointing since the contract was signed in 1996. But Interfax reminded Kwasniewski that the take-or-pay deal "does not allow Poland to refuse to pay for the gas, regardless of its consumption volume."

Taken together, the mistakes in Poland and Russia could still lead to a bypass route around Ukraine.



Liberal delegates send cabinet a forceful message

Revoking Odynsky's citizenship would be a travesty of justice

(Ed. Note: An advance copy of this Editorial was distributed to the Parliamentary Liberal Caucus on June 12.)

Grassroots Liberals in now two provinces are sending the federal cabinet a very serious message. They are saying that the denaturalization and deportation (D & D) process dealing with the revocation of citizenship is very seriously flawed and should be changed. This process violates the Canadian Charter of Rights, they say, and makes second class citizens out of naturalized Canadians.

First delegates to the British Columbia wing of the federal Liberal Party overwhelmingly passed this resolution, then on June 2, delegates to the Southwest region of the Ontario wing passed the same resolution — also with overwhelming numbers.

Not only did they pass this resolution — they made it their top priority. The citizenship resolution got 777 points in the priority voting — more than 50 percent above the second place priority resolution, which received 512 points.

This resolution calls upon the Government of Canada to "ensure that in cases of citizenship revocation, questions of fact and law, and guilt or innocence must be determined by the normal judicial process, free of political interference."

The resolution also states that the current citizenship revocation process does not allow fundamental justice, promised in the Charter of Rights to naturalized Canadians because it denies them the right of appeal in the case of citizenship revocation, a right that is automatic in civil and criminal proceedings or can be permitted by a higher court.

"In the present process, Cabinet makes the final decision on revocation in secret, with no representation for the person whose citizenship is being revoked and no review. It must be divested of a role for which it is unsuited, namely acting as a court of appeal in these cases. This process should be put in the hands of the courts where it belongs. Judges should be accountable to a higher court and not to politicians. Decisions affecting the human rights of a person should not be subject to political influence," stated the resolution.

This is not just Ukrainian News, nor just the Ukrainian Canadian Congress speaking. These are the people who are the foot soldiers of the party under whose banner the current cabinet was elected. These are the government's hard core supporters speaking.

This is something the Cabinet Social Committee of Council should take into consideration when its members consider the recommendation of Immigration and Citizenship Minister Denis Coderre to revoke the citizenship of Wasyl Odynsky. Because if grassroots Liberals are saying that the whole process is seriously flawed to begin with, then no other case so dramatically shows just how seriously this process is flawed, than that of Wasyl Odynsky.

The federal government adopted the D & D process after they failed to make the charges against alleged war criminals stick in criminal court. So the bureaucracy which feeds off "alleged war criminal" cases decided to pursue such cases in civil court, where all they had to do was show under a mere "balance of probabilities" that the respondent lied about his wartime past when entering Canada. It makes things so much easier when one doesn't have to go through the onerous process of proving someone's guilt "beyond a shadow of a doubt."

However, this policy was still de-

Editorial

signed to go after "alleged war criminals" — not Nazi victims. In 1995, when this policy was announced by then Justice Minister Allan Rock the government stated in a press release that: "The key criterion in all these proceedings is the existence of some evidence of individual criminality. If that cannot be proven, no proceedings will be considered."

Well, in Odynsky's case, there was no "existence of some evidence of individual criminality", because in the 1997 Statement of Claim, he was not even charged with any individual crime. Therefore, according to the government's own statements no proceedings should even have been considered.

When the Odynsky judgement came in Justice Andrew MacKay ruled that "there was no evidence at trial that Mr. Odynsky participated personally in any incident involving mistreatment of prisoners or of any other person during his service." He also found that "there is no doubt that Odynsky's service was not voluntary."

In fact, Justice Mackay ruled that Odynsky was forced into service as a Trawniki camp guard under threat of death.

"Mr. Odynsky and his four colleagues did not report as ordered. They hid in Beleluja and the surrounding fields until German officers and Ukrainian police appeared in the village in late March or April and directed that if they did not report without delay they would be severely punished when caught or their families might suffer.

"The five young men from Kolomyja all turned themselves in and they were taken to Snyatyn and jailed for a time there, before being transferred to Kolomyja. There they were held in detention, first threatened with death, then told that there was a reprieve and they would be sent for training, but any further attempt to escape service would lead to their execution when caught, and if they avoided capture their families would be sent to concentration camps.

"They were then sent to Trawniki in the Lublin district under the German-imposed General Gouvernment."

The judge also urged the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration to consider that Odynsky has also been a good citizen since he arrived in Canada, more than 50 years ago, as testified to by members of his church and community.

Not only is Odynsky not an "alleged Nazi war criminal" — he is a Nazi victim. Not only are the grassroots Liberals telling the federal government the whole process is seriously flawed, but a federal judge is telling the cabinet Odynsky is innocent of any war crimes and the Odynsky case does not even meet the government's own criteria for initiation — let alone a recommendation for the revocation of citizenship.

If cabinet chooses to revoke Odynsky's citizenship then that will be a gross travesty of justice. If cabinet decides to revoke Odynsky's citizenship it will be acting in direct conflict with what its own party members are telling them in the strongest terms.

This will indeed be a dark day for Canada and an even darker day for the party of the late Pierre Elliot Trudeau — the party which gave Canada its Charter of Rights.

UKRAINIAN NEWS
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Russia continues to disrespect Ukrainian sovereignty

By Taras Kuzio

(RFE/RL)—It took Russia five years after the demise of the USSR to sign an all-encompassing interstate treaty with Ukraine in 1997, and then a further two for both chambers of the Russian parliament to ratify that treaty. Three years later, Russia's actions in a number of areas show that although Ukraine's borders might no longer be in question, Moscow still finds it extremely difficult to recognize Ukraine as an equal and sovereign state.

Former Russian Premier Viktor Chernomyrdin was appointed ambassador to Ukraine and "special presidential envoy for the development of Russian-Ukrainian trade and economic ties" in May of last year. Since then, his actions show confusion as to whether he also has a third unofficial position, that of regional governor. Chernomyrdin's appointment was meant to consolidate the Russian vector in Ukraine's "multivector" foreign policy as the primary one at a time when the West was becoming increasingly disenchanted with Ukraine.

During the March 31 elections, Chernomyrdin openly interfered in favor of pro-presidential parties, helped fan the flames of an "antinationalist" campaign against pro-Western forces, and chided Ukrainian Foreign Ministry State Secretary Oleksandr Chaly as "obtuse" when he listed among Ukraine's goals joining the European Union, not the alternative Eurasian Economic Community.

Two factors, both of them related to Russian perceptions of national identity, form Chernomyrdin's gubernatorial style.

First, Russia has looked upon the CIS since its creation in December 1991 as a loose commonwealth or confederation guided and led by Russia. In Russia's view, other CIS member states only possess partial sovereignty as the "near abroad," a region that is no longer part of the USSR but, at the same time, is not as fully sovereign as the "far abroad."

Chernomyrdin and other members of the Russian elite are hostile to the Our Ukraine election bloc's foreign policy objective of integration into the European Union and NATO because this is seen as an attempt at fully breaking from Russia. Hence, Russia's open support for the pan-Slavic and pro-Soviet Communist Party of Ukraine and for oligarchic centrist parties that back a foreign policy strategy of "to Europe with Russia."

Second, Russia still finds it difficult to accept Ukraine (and Belarus) as separate countries with independent statehood. Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov told "Rossiiskaya gazeta" in February that Ukraine and

Commentrary

Russia are destined to be close "strategic partners" because of "our shared linguistic, religious, cultural, and historical legacy, our kindred mentality." A year ago, Russian President Vladimir Putin tasked his Foreign Ministry to protect the rights of Russian speakers in the CIS and organized the first congress of "compatriots" in Moscow last October. Russia has used this concern for "compatriots" as a pretext for repeated complaints about the alleged infringement of their rights in education and the media in Ukraine.

Although only the extreme left in Ukraine supports Ukraine's membership of the Russia-Belarus Union, Russia still holds out hope that this will change. In an interview in "Trud" in January, Chernomyrdin was asked if a union of the three eastern Slavic peoples was possible. His reply was indicative: "When Ukrainian society matures to this point it will opt for such a step." According to a March poll by the Russian Public Opinion Fund, almost 50 percent of Russian citizens would like Russia and Ukraine to unite, while another 35 percent believe Ukraine and Russia should remain independent but remove border restrictions and have no visas or customs controls.

When Russia equates demarcation with erecting a "fence" between two countries, it is referring to the kind of border demarcation that was formerly undertaken by the Soviet Union. In Russia's eyes, the only difference between the former borders between the constituent republics of the USSR and the present frontiers between CIS states is that the latter can be now delimited on maps. But this is as far as Russia will go. Demarcation should only be applied — as it was in the USSR — to the "external frontiers" of the CIS.

Chernomyrdin, whose views have been echoed by other Russian officials, said that "demarcation is out of the question" because it is being imposed on Ukraine and Russia by the West. To some extent this is true. Ukraine cannot make good on its rhetoric in favor of aspiring to become an associate and then full member of the EU if it has not demarcated its 2,000-kilometer-long eastern border with Russia (the 2,600-kilometer western border was demarcated in the Soviet era).

But this is not the only reason why Ukraine has unsuccessfully pushed for demarcation. Ukraine's elites have always steadfastly defended their sovereignty and territorial integrity, and to them borders are a symbol of this sovereignty. To accept Russia's division of bor-

The man Ottawa won't leave alone

Sick and running out of money, 78-year-old can't shake war-crimes allegations

By KIRK MAKIN, JUSTICE REPORTER
The Globe and Mail, Monday, June 10, 2002

On the first anniversary of a judicial ruling finding no evidence to link him to Nazi war crimes, Wasyl Odynsky dared to think the government might actually have lost interest in him.

Big mistake. Just a few weeks later — early last month — Mr. Odynsky got the letter he had been dreading. The federal cabinet would consider a Citizenship and Immigration proposal to strip the 78-year-old man of his Canadian citizenship.

"After 50 years, how can they do such a thing to an old person?" Mr. Odynsky said in his first interview since being accused in 1997 of concealing a Nazi past.

"I am completely innocent," Mr. Odynsky said, sitting stiffly in his daughter's Etobicoke living room alongside his wife Maria. "I never expected my own government would say that I came here illegally. How can they do this to an innocent person?"

Ill with prostate cancer and living on the rapidly dwindling assets the couple accumulated since arriving in Canada in 1949, Mr. Odynsky compared his treatment to that found in fascist dictatorships.

"My wife and I worked 37 years here," he said. "We tried to save money to buy a house. There were hard times, but we managed. When this happened, it was a shock. We lost everything we earned. Our house belongs to the bank. Our retirement money, money we saved for our kids — all gone now."

The couple may never even occupy the burial plots they purchased in a Toronto-area cemetery, Mrs. Odynsky interjected emotionally.

"It just gets worse and worse," Mr. Odynsky said. "Now that they want to deport me, and I feel I am finished. If they take me from my family, that is worse than sickness. I would rather die."

How is it that Mr. Odynsky seemingly won the war to clear his name, yet is losing the battle to stay in Canada? The answer comes toward the end of Federal Court Judge W. Andrew MacKay's March 2, 2001, ruling.

Judge MacKay said while evidence was foggy on the point, he could only conclude that it is more likely than not that Mr. Odynsky lied to immigration officers about his wartime status.

Should cabinet elect to order his deportation — and if the Immigration and Refugee Board agrees — Mr. Odynsky would rank as the first unqualified success for a controversial bureaucracy that has rung up untold millions of dollars in the past two decades.

Even then, the back-door removal strategy is a far cry from the original government plan of holding criminal trials on Canadian soil. That tactic disintegrated in 1994, when the courts said the chances of assembling evidence strong enough to support a criminal conviction were minimal.

In disarray, federal prosecutors opted to pursue suspected war criminals for lying about their wartime activities in order to enter Canada. With a much lower legal hurdle — a mere "balance of probabilities" — their success rate soared.

To date, the government has won seven of 10 Federal Court rulings on the point. Six elderly defendants died before the entire process could be completed. Two men have left the country voluntarily, while two other cases are in progress.

If Mr. Odynsky is rendered stateless and eventually deported, he would become the first alleged war criminal forcibly removed from Canada.

Born in 1924 in Western Ukraine, Mr. Odynsky's village was occupied by the Germans in 1941. Like many young people, he was carted away to provide forced labour. However, he and four friends escaped. Judge MacKay noted that they turned themselves in only after learning that their families were threatened with execution.

Mr. Odynsky became a perimeter guard at a forced-labour camp in Trawniki, defending the camp against attacks by partisans. On Nov. 3 or 4, 1943, a massacre by German SS police took place that wiped out most of the Jewish captives in the area. Judge MacKay found that Mr. Odynsky was confined to his barracks at the time.

Mr. Odynsky met his wife-to-be at a displaced person's camp. Once in Canada, he drove a forklift for a trucking company until an injury forced him into early retirement.

The couple swore in court that harried Canadian officials asked them no details about their whereabouts during the war. Officials, however, countered that it was routine for them to ask such questions — and they would have done so.

After weeks of evidence — including an expedition to Ukraine by more than a dozen court personnel that was 50-per-cent paid for by the Odynskys — the judge said he had no doubt Mr. Odynsky served involuntarily throughout the war and had never been a Nazi.

"There was no evidence of any incident in which he was involved that could be considered as directed wrongfully at any other individual, whether a forced labourer-prisoner, or any other person," Judge MacKay said.

However, faced with no reliable way to resolve the contradiction over the immigration interview question, Judge MacKay went with the official line.

"In my opinion, after careful consideration of the evidence presented, on a balance of probabilities it is more probable than not that Mr. Odynsky did not truthfully answer questions that were put to him concerning his wartime experience," he concluded.

Olya Odynsky, Mr. Odynsky's daughter, refers to this as "the Russian roulette of who the judge is." Grasping at evidentiary straws, she said, some judges have tended to err on the side of the defendant while others go along with the official account.

Throughout the interview, Mr. Odynsky was adamant about his innocence.

"I didn't want to go to the war," he said. "They told me: 'If you go away, we will shoot you on the spot. And if we don't get you, then we will take your family straight to concentration camps.' I had no choice. I had to stay there."

Mr. Odynsky said he believes that once Canadian officials looked under his arm and saw that he had no telltale SS tattoo, they didn't bother asking him about his status during the war.

His daughter spoke of how her spirits soared when she read Judge MacKay's words effectively exonerating her father. They plummeted just as quickly when she hit the spot where he concluded that Mr. Odynsky must have lied to enter Canada. However, Ms. Odynsky rediscovered her optimism when the judge stressed toward the end of his ruling that the minister of citizenship and immigration ought to pay heed to his positive conclusions about Mr. Odynsky's conduct during the war.

For good measure, Judge MacKay added: "Evidence as to his character from some of those who have known him in Canada — uncontested at trial — commended his good character and reflected his standing within his church and within the Ukrainian community in Toronto."

If cabinet rules against Mr. Odynsky, it will remain to be seen whether he can scrape up enough money to delay the deportation until his death — as others have done. "My health is going," Mr. Odynsky said. "I have maybe another few years."

Russia continues to disrespect Ukrainian sovereignty

ders in the CIS into delimited "internal" and delimited-demarcated "external" ones would be to accept a status of only partial sovereignty.

Some 30,000 migrants manage to enter Ukraine each year because of its transparent border with Russia. The security of the Russian-Ukrainian border cannot be therefore resolved without demarcation, according to National Security and Defense Council Secretary Yevhen Marchuk. As is common with Russian officials who like to speak on behalf of the CIS, Chernomyrdin claimed that the decision not to proceed with demarcation was taken by "mutual agreement." This is not the case. Ukrainian Foreign Ministry First Deputy State Secretary Volodymyr Yelchenko responded by saying demarcation is an integral part of the legalization of national borders.

Nevertheless, three years after its ratification of the border treaty, Russia continues to rule out taking the next logical step; namely, border demarcation. Delimitation of the border is all but settled except for the Azov Sea, which Russia wants to maintain as a common lake

In an article published last month in the journal "Nations and Nationalism," Vera Tolz outlined advances made in Russian post-Soviet historiography on Ukraine that she suggested reflect a Russian retreat from its traditional imperial, "big brother" paternalistic attitude. Nevertheless, Tolz concluded that it will take decades to redefine Ukrainian-Russian relations "on the basis of Russia's full acceptance of an independent Ukraine as an equal partner in the international arena." This would be similar to the protracted process of Polish-Ukrainian reconciliation, which began after World War II but eventually only bore fruit in the 1980s.

Dr. Taras Kuzio is joint editor of the just-published volume "Ukrainian Foreign and Security Policy" (Praeger, 2002) and a resident fellow at the Centre for East European and Russian Studies, University of Toronto.

Annan urges more democratic reforms in Ukraine

(RFE/RL)—In a speech before the Ukrainian parliament on June 4, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan praised Ukraine for its moves toward European integration, but he also urged the former Soviet republic to continue with democratic reforms, AP reported the same day.

"One of the great challenges to humankind today is to make not just the principle but the practice of democracy equally universal," Annan told the Verkhovna Rada.

The UN secretary-general also called on the international community to help Ukraine ensure that "democracy cannot be subverted in insidious ways, through the slow accretion of abuses," alluding to allegations of corruption and election rigging that have been leveled against Ukrainian officials.

International observers reported irregularities in Ukraine's March 31 parliamentary elections and Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma has also faced a number of accusations, including corruption, illegal arms trading, money laundering, and abuse of power. CB a new Labor Code.
Code.

United Ukraine to become less united

(RFE/RL)—The United Ukraine parliamentary caucus has launched a "process of creating an interfactional association" based on the bloc's deputies, UNIAN reported on June 11, quoting United Ukraine lawmaker Mykola Onishchuk.

According to Onishchuk, the parties currently constituting United Ukraine — Labor Ukraine, Popular Democratic Party, Party of Regions, Agrarian Party, and Party of Entrepreneurs and Industrialists — want to create their own parliamentary groups within the United Ukraine "interfactional association."

Meanwhile, Communist Party lawmaker Heorhiy Kryuchkov commented that the transformation of United Ukraine into such a group is "not a split but decomposition oriented toward obtaining a larger amount of official offices and cars."

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ALL PHOTOS — MARCO LEVYTSKY

Top Left: Members of the Verkhovyna Choir perform a Ukrainian "doo-wop" tune; Top Right: Vohon Dancers; Middle Right: Foam Lake's Veselka Choir; Bottom Right: Dunai Dancers.

Foam Lake Ukrainian festival a class act

(UkrNews)—Approximately 450 people attended the Veselka 2002 Ukrainian festival in Foam Lake Saskatchewan, May 18.

It was also very well received according to organizing committee member Bohdan Popowych.

"The comments that we heard from the crowd were that entertainment-wise it was one of the best we've had," he said.

Performing were the Verkhovyna Ensemble, from Edmonton, which includes the Verkhovyna Choir and the Dunai Dancers, the Vohon Dancers from Edmonton, the UB Band, as well as the local Veselka Choir, Wishart Hopak Dancers, Sheho Ukrainian Dancers, Foam Lake Zirka Dancers and the Zuchkan Band.

Popowych said it's a feather in the cap of the small community of Foam Lake (population 1200) to be able to put on a festival like this every year.

"Every year we've managed to bring in class acts from abroad and this has raised the spirit of the community," he said.

Rada rejects appeal to prosecute Tymoshenko

(RFE/RL)—The Verkhovna Rada has rejected an appeal from the Prosecutor-General's Office to pursue criminal proceedings against former Deputy Prime Minister Yuliya Tymoshenko, leader of the eponymous opposition faction of parliament, AP reported on June 6, citing the parliamentary press service.

Deputy Prosecutor-General Mykola Obikhod appealed to the Ukrainian parliament on June 3, asking for permission to continue a criminal investigation into charges of corruption against Tymoshenko.

Parliament Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn rejected the prosecutor's appeal on June 5, citing legal imperfections.

June 4 Reuter reported that Ukraine is seeking to extradite four former executives of the energy supplier Unified Energy Systems of Ukraine (EESU) who were arrested in the Turkish resort town of Antalya the previous last week.

The four include Hennadiy Tymoshenko, the former general director of the company and father-in-law of Ukrainian opposition politician Yuliya Tymoshenko; former Chief Executive Officer Yevhen Shaho; and two former financial officers, Lydiya Sokolchenko and Antoniya Palyura.

Ukrainian prosecutors accuse them of hiding hard-currency profits and stealing state assets. Yuliya Tymoshenko said on June 3 said the extradition efforts are a politically motivated attack against her opposition activities in parliament and she asked Turkish authorities to grant the four asylum.

On June 5 she said that the former EESU executives asked for political asylum of their own accord, adding that she does not know how their case is progressing as she has not had regular contact with them, Interfax reported the same day.

Tymoshenko added that media reports that she has been seeking political asylum for the four former executives, including her father-in-law Hennadiy Tymoshenko, cannot be true since no one has the right to request asylum for someone else.

Prosecutors accused Yuliya Tymoshenko last year of hiding hard-currency profits, large-scale theft of state assets, and paying bribes to former Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko while she was head of Unified Energy Systems of Ukraine.

A Kyiv court dismissed the charges against Tymoshenko on April 20.

Ukraine to outline NATO bid in July

(RFE/RL)—Ukrainian officials plan to come up with an outline for their country's bid to join NATO that can be presented at the military alliance's summit in Prague in November, AP reported on June 6.

Ihor Kharchenko, deputy state secretary of the Foreign Ministry, said that Ukrainian authorities plan to discuss how to "qualitatively deepen relations with NATO" at a meeting with ambassadors of NATO member states and NATO Secretary-General Lord George Robertson on July 9 in Kyiv.

He added, however, that many problems persist that would have to be resolved before gaining entry to the alliance, such as the need to carry out further economic reforms and to gain domestic parliamentary support for the former Soviet republic's accession to the Western alliance. Ukraine formally announced its bid to join NATO on May 23.

At a videoconference on June 5 dedicated to U.S.-Ukrainian relations and Ukraine's potential integration into NATO, U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Steven Pifer, who is a former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, said that NATO is ready to encourage Ukraine's desire to integrate into Europe, but that the former Soviet republic has to facilitate these efforts not only with words but with actions, by creating structures in line with the requirements of the military alliance, Interfax reported the same day.

Pifer said that NATO regards Ukraine as a potential partner that will shed its Cold War mentality and think in terms of the future fight against terrorism.

Meanwhile, Petro Symonenko, leader of the Communist Party of Ukraine, told ITAR-TASS on June 6 that Communists in the Ukrainian parliament will never support Ukraine's joining NATO, because the idea "runs counter to the constitution and national interests."

He said the resolution of the Council for National Security and Defense, as well as a statement by President Leonid Kuchma, about Ukraine's desire to join NATO "constitutes a gross violation of the constitution and all the norms of international relations."

Symonenko said that the council and the president have the right to analyze various problems and to make recommendations, but neither has the right "to make official statements about the main directions of [Ukrainian] foreign policy."

PHOTO — MARCO LEVYTSKY

Mezzo-Soprano Svetlana Sech performing "Poslaniye" with the Dnipro Choir and the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra.

An emotional premiere for Kouzan's "The Final Message"

(UkrNews)—A practically sold-out house gave a rousing standing ovation to the premiere of composer Marian S. Kouzan "Poslaniye (The Final Message)" set to the words of Taras Shevchenko's monumental poem.

Kouzan, who had suffered a series of debilitating strokes over the past few years was brought out on a wheelchair, then stood up and blew kisses to the audience in an emotional moment.

The music, a choral and symphonic work in three movements, each with themes that build on Shevchenko's monumental work, is a modernistic haunting piece evokes the spirit of the bard.

It was performed by the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, celebrating both its Gala 50th Anniversary as well as its last performance under conductor Grzegorz Nowak, along with Soprano Svetlana Sech, Baritone Theodore Baerg, the Ukrainian Dnipro Chorus of Edmonton and the Ukrainian Male Chorus of Edmonton.

Shevchenko wrote his satirical, political poem "Poslaniye" in 1845, after his emancipation and after graduating from the Petersburg Academy of Fine Arts. While traveling for eight months all over Ukraine as a member of the Kyiv Archeographic Commission, he realized the full extent of Ukraine's misfortune under Russian rule, the total absence of personal, social and national freedom in this once free, heroic and prosperous nation. It was the Russian Tsar who had introduced serfdom to Ukraine. So in his poem, he portrays with bitter sarcasm, the lawlessness of Tsarist rule and the Ukrainian aristocracy's hypocrisy, inhumanity and indifference to the sufferings of its fellow Ukrainians at the hands of the Russian oppressors. He criticizes and scolds the Ukrainian landlords for praising the Western ideals of "liberty, equality and brotherhood" in theory, but neglecting to put those ideals into practice.

Most importantly, Shevchenko reminds the Ukrainian elite that only "in one's own house" is the "one's own truth," and entreats them to embrace their own poor brothers, begs them to realize their national potential, to stop serving foreign masters, and to become a free, honourable people, worthy of their history and heritage, in their own free land. Pointing to the enslavement of individuals and entire nations by the Russian Tsars, Shevchenko nevertheless believes that divine justice will one day triumph for Ukraine and for all humanity.

Composer and Conductor, Marian S. Kouzan, was born Sept. 29, 1925 in Isai, Halychyna. At the age of two he moved to France where he later studied music at the Paris conservatory of Music. The diverse influences that he was exposed to and his dual cultural backgrounds shaped and defined a unique and highly acclaimed personal style. He gained notoriety for his numerous orchestral works and music for film and television. Kouzan was awarded the Blue Ribbon of the American Film Festival in New York for his film, "Sheep in the Wood."

In 1988, Edmonton celebrated the millennium of Christianity in Ukraine with many events including an orchestral performance of Kouzan's oratorio, *Les Néophytes*. After the enthusiastic response to this performance, The Alberta Ukrainian Commemorative Society commissioned Kouzan to compose *The Final Message*, a three movement choral and symphonic work that sets to music the inspiring poem by Shevchenko, "My Friendly Poslaniye." He finished the work in 1992.

After the independence of Ukraine in the late 1990's, Kouzan traveled to Kyiv to study and experience the rich musical traditions of Ukraine and its people. Arriving home exhausted, Kouzan suffered two strokes, resulting in a three-year coma. Despite regaining consciousness in October of last year, Kouzan could not recognize people or hold a conversation with those closest to him.

Composer Marian Kouzan expresses his appreciation to the audience.

Polish cemetery memorial date to be set after July

(Eastern Economist)—The date of opening the Polish military section of the Lychakivsky cemetery in Lviv will be set after July 31.

According to a decision made at a session of the Lviv city council May 30, by that time representatives of the city council, the public, Ukraine's Interdepartmental Committee for Commemorating Victims of War and Political Repression and Poland's Council to Protect the Memory of Struggle and Martyrdom will hold extended consultations to set the date of a joint opening ceremony.

The presidents of the two countries are to attend the ceremony which will commemorate UPA fighters and Poles buried in Lviv.

Newsbriefs

Population now 48.4 million

(RFE/RL)—State Statistics Committee head Oleksandr Osaulenko told journalists on May 29 that, according to last year's census, there were 48.4 million people living in Ukraine on Dec. 5 2001, UNIAN reported. Sixty-seven percent of Ukrainians live in urban areas; women constitute 54 percent of the population. The previous census in 1989 found that the Ukrainian SSR was inhabited by 52.5 million people.

Kyiv population 2.6 million

(RFE/RL)—According to last year's national census, 2,607,400 people lived in Kyiv as of December 2001, UNIAN reported on June 10.

Top TV executive found dead

(RFE/RL)—Prosecutors have opened a criminal investigation into the suicide death of Ukrainian National Television Company deputy chief Andriy Feshchenko on suspicion that he was forced to take his own life, Ukrainian media reported. Feshchenko was found dead on May 31 inside his jeep on a street in Kyiv. Police also found a hunting rifle and a note from Feshchenko in the car, but the content of the note — which has not been released — prompted prosecutors to start looking for suspects who might have forced Feshchenko to commit suicide.

Ukraine, China speed arms cooperation

(Eastern Economist)—Ukraine and China will speed up cooperation on bilateral and multilateral basis in the sector of new arms and military equipment production and the modernization of old weapons. Ukrainian Armed Force's General Chief-of-Staff Petro Shuliak and his Chinese counterpart Fu Quanyou discussed the cooperation prospects in Kyiv May 30 within the Chinese military delegation visit to Ukraine.

Ukraine strikes US10M tank deal

(RFE/RL)—Ukraine has concluded a $100 million agreement with Islamabad on the delivery of 285 engines for Pakistani Al-Khalil tanks, RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service and dpa reported on June 10. Officials at the Kharkiv-based Malyshev Tank Plant, which is to supply the engines, said the first 15 engines to be installed in Pakistani vehicles have been undergoing testing since late 2001.

Naval Sea Breeze 2002 completed

(Interfax-Ukraine)—The Defense Ministry reported on June 10 that the naval stage of the Sea Breeze joint Ukrainian-U.S. maneuvers in the Tyrrhenian Sea in June 7-9 have been successfully completed. The military of the two countries conducted joint training that included tactical maneuvering and gunnery, and rescue operations with the Kostiantyn Olshanskiy landing ship, the Slavutych control vessel, the Kremenets rescue tug of Ukraine's Navy, and the Roosevelt destroyer of the U.S. Navy.

Man charged with killing nun

(UNIAN)—A local inhabitant, born in 1982, has been arrested in Vinnytsya. On the evening of June 1 he allegedly raped and smothered a nun. Her body was found in the attic of an unfinished church of St. Protection of the Virgin. As UNIAN has learnt from a source with law-enforcement bodies, it has been established that the alleged killer was workingont the building of the church.

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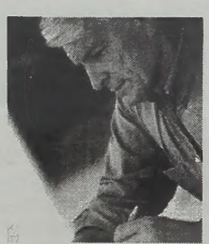

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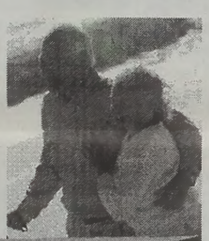

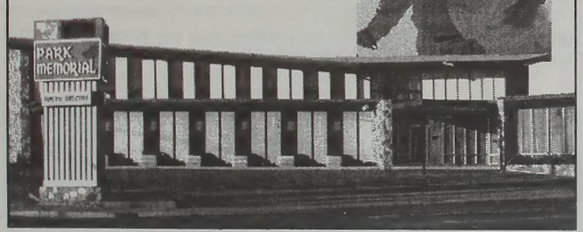

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«Приятелі дітей» відкрили школярам красу карпат і цінність добра

М. Остапенко

У дні передвиборчих перегонів дуже густо стає гучних обіцянок і широко афішованих благодійних акцій. Але що буде, коли життя увійде в своє звичайне русло? На цьому тлі особливо цінними є турбота і допомога, не пов'язані із передвиборчими агітаційними маневрами.

Саме про таку турботу добре пам'ятають у Слов'янській допоміжній школі –інтернаті №2, вихованці якої, ось вже два роки мають змогу відпочити кілька тижнів як справжні туристи. І не денебудь, а у мальовничому містечку Ворохті, у Карпатах. Дарує їм цей відпочинок Товариство «Приятелів дітей», яке нині у Канаді та США. Створила і очолила організацію канадка Руслана Вжесневська, співпрацює з нею Катерина Чумаченко-Юценко. Спочатку Товариство лише розвозило по школах-інтернатах України матеріяльну допомогу – взуття і одяг, навчальне приладдя й іграшки. Але «Приятелі дітей» вирішили, що цього замало, тому виникла ідея організовувати літній табір для обділених дітей у Карпатах. Саме туди поїхали і слов'янці.

У таборі діти не тільки відпочивали, але, що найголовніше, знаходили собі нових друзів і навіть підвищували свої знання, вдосконалювали вміння. Обов'язково там діють майстерні, які проводять канадці – розповідає вчитель початкових клясів Т. К. Сорокан. А тематика їх дуже різноманітна – «Лозоплетіння», «Бойовий гопак», «Флористика», «Мас-медіа» та багато інших. Крім того, дівчат і хлопців з усієї України об'єднують конкурси, ігри, покази кращих пісень, танців і газет. А ще – прогулянки по канатній дорозі, подорожі на гору Магору і навіть на Говерлу. Діти починають відчувати, що для здійснення чогось потрібно подалати щось і в собі самому. Вони щиро ставляться до давнього повір'я: якщо зійдеш на Говерлу, то можеш згадати бажання, і воно обов'язково здійсниться.

Табір у Ворохті, як оповідають ті, хто його відвідав, діє майже на скаутськими принципами із їх обов'язковою чіткістю. Але дитячі серця відчувають тут головне – вони вчаться бути разом і в той же час залишатися особистостями, долати те, що раніше і не сподівалися зробити. І все це – в атмосфері української культури і традицій. І, що теж важливо, – в умовах гарного матеріяльного забезпечення табору, про яке турбуються люди, що живуть за океаном. Таке, як сама пані Руслана чи подружжя Катерина і Дмитро з канадського містечка Лондон.

Для наших вихованців такий відпочинок стає найсильнішим враженням у їх житті, – розповідає Т. К. Сорокан. – А сам такий табір вражає і педагогів. Мабуть, всі, хто побував там, довго пам'ятатимуть пісню, яку почули у Ворохті.

...Минула зима, і скоро вже знову будуть шкільні канікули, отже, обділені слов'янські діти будуть чекати свій шанс відпочити.

Хотілося б, щоб про них згадали не тільки канадські й американські друзі, а проста пісня, почута у Ворохті, торкнулася сердець.

Природне багатство Карпат під загрозою

Ольга Буряк, *Радіо Свобода*

У Міжнародний День захисту довкілля Світовий Фонд Довкілля (World Wide Fund of nature - WWT) із штаб квартирою у Швейцарії попереджає про загрозу природним багатствам Карпат. Ця організація оприлюднила звіт про статус Карпат за результатами першого широкомасштабного міжнародного дослідження природних і культурних багатств регіону, що охоплює Україну, Румунію, Польщу, Словаччину, Угорщину, Чехію й Австрію.

Міжнародні екологи закликають припинити вирубувати карпатські ліси, заборонити полювання і прокладення там нових доріг. Аби зберегти Карпати вони радять сприяти розвитку фермерства й екологічного туризму та поліпшувати схеми використання лісів.

Звіт підготувала Карпатська Екорегіональна Ініціатива, що налічує понад 50 організацій з охорони довкілля. Говорить український координатор цієї програми Василь Покінчереда: "Зараз ми перекладаємо цей звіт з англійської на українську мову і готуємо його українське видання. У звіті визначено пріоритетні території для збереження як біо-різноманіття, так і культурно-історичної спадщини наших Карпат. Ці пріоритетні території привертатимуть найбільшу увагу Ініціативи Східно-карпатського Екорегіону. Для збереження біорізноманіття, на цих територіях буде створено природоохоронні об'єкти, такі, як заповідники й національні парки."

Карпатська екорегіональна Ініціатива досліджує природу та історію Східних Карпат, які пов'язані з трьома країнами і створюють умови для співпраці майбутнього Європейського Союзу з Україною. Одним з перспективних проектів називають розвиток екологічного туризму, якому сприяє чудова природа, клімат регіону та самі фермерські господарства, що здатні забезпечити проживання для любителів подорожувати. Але, розширення Євросоюзу для Українських Карпат несе певні загрози. Про них говорить речниця Карпатської Екорегіональної Ініціативи Інна Томашук: "Це перш за все – економічні проблеми: у регіоні катастрофічно зростає безробіття сільського населення. Є певні загрози і від розширення Європейського Союзу. Існує ризик, що політика ЄС не завжди співзвучна з місцевими потребами охорони довкілля. Українські Карпати можливо стануть ізольованішими, якщо Польща та Угорщина увійдуть до ЄС, зокрема в плані охорони довкілля, так як в Карпатах відбувається міграція тварин, а якщо будуть прокладати дороги, то це також матиме на тварин негативний вплив."

Узагалі, Карпати – один з 200 світових екорегіонів, який Світовий Фонд Довкілля називає унікальним за його тваринний і рослинний світи. Саме тут можна знайти 481 вид рослин, яких ніде більше у світі не існує; саме цей регіон є другим на континенті найбагатшим на одвічні ліси і велику популяцію бурих ведмедів, вовків, бізонів й рідкісних видів пташок. Але, низький рівень громадської й політичної свідомості разом із високим рівнем бідності призвели до того, що біологічне й культурне багатство Карпат потерпає від забруднення, вирубки лісів та безконтрольного полювання.

Івано-Франківські міліціонери готові назвати вбивць Шкрібляка

(Українська правда)—Керівництво обласного управління внутрішніх справ України заявило, що правоохоронці вже найближчим часом назвуть імена підозрюваних у вбивстві двох кандидатів до парламенту, які загинули під час передвиборної кампанії на Прикарпатті.

Керівник кримінального відділу обласного управління внутрішніх справ Ігор Адамчук заявив, що незабаром будуть названі імена підозрюваних у вбивстві.

У ході розслідування затримано бригаду злочинців-гастролерів, які приїхали до Івано-Франківська і які можуть бути пов"язані з цими вбивствами, а також підприємця з Івано-Франківщини, в якого було виявлено боргові розписки, що підтверджують зобов'язання з боку підприємця повернути вбитому Миколі Шкріблякові позичені в нього гроші. Керівник обласного управління внутрішніх справ України генерал Богдан Керницький запевнив, що правоохоронці долають зараз заключний етап розслідування і, як він відзначив, "ми знаємо, кого шукати".

У ході передвиборчої кампанії до Верховної Ради були вбиті київський бізнесмен Володимир Євстратов, зареєстрований під номером 6-им у виборчому списку Всеукраїнської партії трудящих, та заступник голови Івано-Франківської обласної держадміністрації Микола Шкрібляк, який балотувався до парламенту у мажоритарному виборчому окрузі номер 90.

Sheptytsky Institute celebrates 50 years

The weekend of June 21–23, has been selected to observe the 50th Anniversary of Sheptytsky Institute, marking a half century of service and dedication to the university community, the Eparchy of Saskatoon and the province of Saskatchewan. Alumni, board members and staff from Saskatchewan and across Canada will gather to participate in the program of activities, to reminisce about "the old days", and to reacquaint themselves with colleagues and friends.

The 50th Anniversary activities commence with Registration on June 21, at the Institute. Saturday will provide opportunities for golfing, local tours, University Homecoming activities and reminiscing. A Divine Liturgy of Thanksgiving and a Banquet and program will take place at St. George's Cathedral Saturday evening. Sunday will begin with a morning Divine Liturgy at Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church, followed by a Brunch and Farewell at Sheptytsky Institute.

Upon arrival to Canada, Ukrainian immigrants desired to be an integral part of the "new" society in their new homeland. They valued education and built many schools, churches and halls across the province. These became centers of growth and learning. In general, the local community provided an environment which fostered the preservation of culture, customs and traditions.

At the elementary level, the children attended the school in their community. For their high school years, students usually had to make arrangements to attend a high school which was located away from their home community. Some students may have had the good fortune to attend Catholic institutions of learning such as Sacred Heart Academy (a girls' high school established 1917) and St. Joseph's College (a boys' high school established 1920) in Yorkton.

In 1935, the Ukrainian Catholic Brotherhood established the Markian Shashkevych Bursa, a humble home for boys attending university, Normal School, business college or high school in Saskatoon. In 1937, it was replaced by a much larger and more impressive facility at 304 – 4th Avenue North in Saskatoon. For the next 18 years this residence was home to many of those who rose to prominence in the armed forces, in professions, business and politics. There were mayors, MLAs, MPs, senators, doctors, superintendents, principals, all with Ukrainian roots, who stayed at the Markian Shashkevych Bursa.

After a time, the Bursa could not accommodate the sheer numbers of students who desired to stay there during their studies. New trends were also emerging in Canada; it was changing in character and composition. Once again the Ukrainian Catholic Brotherhood took up the challenge. In April, 1944, the Brotherhood issued a proclamation to build a new residence. In 1945, a site was purchased at College and Wiggins Avenues. With the arrival of His Excellency, Bishop Andrew Roborecki, in 1951, nearly $400,000 was raised through parishes, church organizations and private donations. Construction of the new Institute began in 1950, the cornerstone was laid.

in 1952, and the Metropolitan Sheptytsky Institute was officially opened in 1953. It could accommodate 70 students as well as a chapel, museum. It was also the headquarters of OBNOVA Club, a Ukrainian Catholic university students' organization.

Metropolitan Sheptytsky Institute remained under the jurisdiction of the Episcopal Corporation of Saskatchewan until 1975. By the late 1960's, increasing secularism and growing pluralism began to impose new values and new lifestyles on a traditionally Christian society. By 1974, the Institute began to experience financial difficulties. The structure itself was in need of major renovations and upgrading in order to conform with mandatory building codes. Bishop Roborecki summoned a meeting of the laity to deal with these matters. A Provisional Board was formed and assigned the task of assessing the situation and recommending the changes necessary to once again make the Institute a viable operation.

The Provisional Board recommended the creation of the Metropolitan Sheptytsky Society of Saskatchewan, to be incorporated under the Societies Act of Saskatchewan. A 17-member board representing six regions of the province assumed responsibility for the Institute on December 1, 1975. It elected a 5-member Executive and several committees. An Operations Manager and an Executive Secretary were hired in 1976. These two positions were merged into one in 1982.

The 1978-79 school year was the final year in which Sheptytsky Institute was an all-male residence. During the 1979-80 school year, the Institute became co-ed. The Institute began generating revenues through Summer Camps and programs. In 1984, the second floor was extended over the chapel to house a library. Two rooms were provided for the Ukrainian Catholic Religious Education Centre, the resource center and educational-extension branch of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Saskatchewan. The museum was moved to its own premises near St. George's Cathedral. During this time, a modernization of the kitchen facilities enhanced the Institute's profile. The Religious Education Centre eventually assumed the space occupied by the library.

In 1998, the Metropolitan Sheptytsky Society and St. Thomas More College entered into a Management Agreement whereby the College assumed the management functions of the Institute. The Institute Board and the Eparchy of Saskatoon continue to arrange and oversee cultural-heritage initiatives and spiritual programs such as Campus Pastoral Ministry for the residents.

Patriarch Filaret establishes vicariate for USA and Canada

(RISU.org.ua)—During a recent visit to the USA, Patriarch Filaret, head of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church-Kyivan Patriarchate (UOC-KP), created a Ukrainian Orthodox vicariate of the UOC-KP in the USA and Canada, thus developing the canonical structure of the church's parishes in the two countries. This news was reported by the press service of the UOC-KP on June 2.

Bishop-Vicar Stepan Biliak, who was ordained on May 19 in St. Nicholas Church in Cooper City, Florida (near Miami), was appointed head of the vicariate.

This last visit differed considerably from Patriarch Filaret's first two trips to the USA, during which he was studying the situation of Ukrainian Orthodox communities in North America

This visit coincided with the start of the jubilee convention celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America (UNWLA). The UNWLA, one of the most influential Ukrainian civic organizations in the USA, held its convention in Sarasota, Florida. Patriarch Filaret awarded the UNWLA the order of St. Volodymyr the Great.

Bishop Dymytrii, Archdeacon Oleh Hryn, Subdeacon Kostiantyn Lozynskyi, and Dmytro Stepovyk, professor of the Kyiv Spiritual Academy and member of the Supreme Church Council of the UOC-KP, accompanied Patriarch Filaret during his visit to the USA.

History of Greek Catholic underground being recorded

(RISU.org.ua)—The Institute of Church History at the Lviv Theological Academy has begun videotaping the testimonies of 50 of the oldest surviving members from the underground of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church (UGCC). The accounts of these survivors, all over 70 years old, will be included in a documentary film about the UGCC's illegal existence in Ukraine from 1946 to 1989.This news was reported by the newspaper "Postup" (Ukrainian for "Progress") on June 4.

In hour-long interviews, bishops, priests, priests' widows, religious and laity talk about important events in their lives and the ordeals they had to undergo, professing Christian values in defiance of Soviet ideology.

"These people are gradually passing away," notes Iryna Kolomyiets, head of the institute's pastoral department. "So we are simply obliged to leave their recollections, emotions, and worldviews on film, to show future generations the right way to go. It is our duty to show and to preserve the faces of these everyday heroes."

In addition to the video project, since its founding in 1992 the Institute of Church History has been compiling a "living history" archive of the underground UGCC. This archive is a collection of texts, audio files, authentic documents and photographs. It is expected that the archive will soon be available not only to scholars and researchers, but will be also put up on the Internet. (The institute already has a web site, available in English and in Ukrainian, at www.ichistory.org.)

The institute has collected 1320 interviews, more than 2000 photographs and 200 unique museum exhibit items. Nadia Rodnenkova, head of the archive and computer department, believes that for the next century researchers will have plenty of work to do in this field.

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HELP US SEND AN ORPHAN TO CAMP

This summer *Help Us Help the Children*, a project of Children Of Chornobyl Canadian Fund, will hold its seventh annual summer camp for orphans in Ukraine. Over 480 children, aged 12-18, from orphanages throughout Ukraine, will participate in the *Help Us Help The Children* Summer Camp 2002. Once again, the camp will be held in the town of Vorokhta, in the Carpathian Mountains. The program is designed to raise the children's awareness of the power they hold in shaping their lives. They will take part in workshops intended to develop their self-confidence, independence, team-work and self-esteem. *Help Us Help The Children's* North American and Ukrainian volunteers will continue to instill in the children an understanding of Ukraine's history and culture and to cultivate a sense of belonging and pride in their country.

Once again, we appeal to you to assist *Help Us Help the Children* and sponsor an orphan to Summer Camp 2002. It costs $150.00 for one child to attend camp. This includes their transportation to camp, accommodation, three meals a day, new shoes, socks, a hat, T-shirts, pants, towels, and hygiene items such as toothpaste and shampoo. With a minimum donation of $50.00 you will receive a picture of the child you helped sponsor and a thank-you letter from the child as well as a tax receipt. Please help us in creating an unforgettable two weeks for an orphan in Ukraine this summer!

YES, I WOULD LIKE TO SEND AN ORPHAN TO CAMP:

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Please make cheques payable to *Help Us Help the Children*, and mail to:
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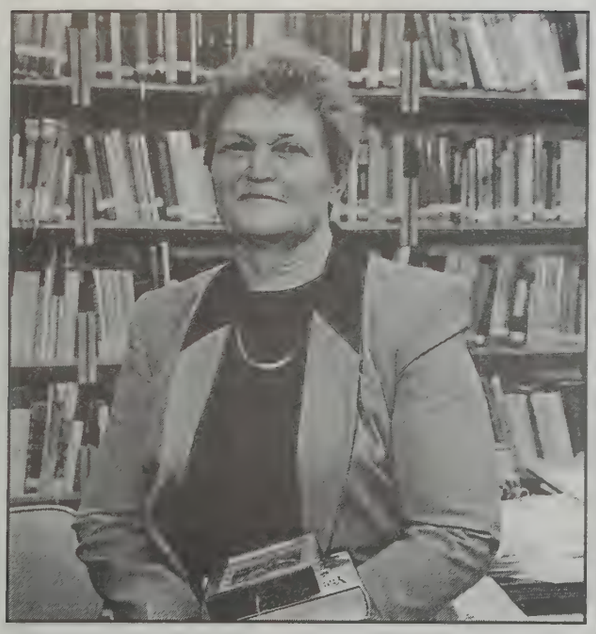


Софія Лазар, бібліотекар Методичного кабінету.

Ком'ютеризація бібліотеки Методичного кабінету української мови

Василь Лащівський

Метою діяльності Методичного кабінету української мови (МКУМу) при Канадському інституті українських студій (КІУС) в Альбертському Університеті є підтримка української двомовної програми та інших програм навчання української мови й культури в Канаді. Методичний кабінет розробляє та видає навчальні матеріяли, проводить дослідження, допомагає професійному розвиткові вчителів української мови. З–поміж основних цілей Методичного кабінету – розвиток бібліотеки україномовних навчальних ресурсів.

– Стратегія роботи Методичного кабінету української мови – розробка нових навчальних матеріялів та їх донесення до україномовної громади, – говорить директор МКУМу пані Маруся Петришин. – Ми переходимо від накопичення матеріялів до надання бібліотекою нових послуг.

Відвідувачі бібліотеки – учні та вчителі двомовних шкіл, студенти та викладачі Альбертського Університету, дослідники, особи, які зацікавлені в індивідуальному вивченні української мови. Вибір справді широкий: до їхніх послуг велика кількість навчальної та художньої літератури, виданої в Україні; класика українського кіно й сучасні відеофільми, аудіокасети та компакт–диски.

– На сьогоднішній день наша бібліотека нараховує понад 7000 різноманітних матеріялів, – розповідає пані Софія Лазар, бібліотекар Методичного кабінету. – Це найбільша збірка україномовних матеріялів для навчання мови за межами України.

Пані Софія, будучи учителем за освітою, набуває нових знань, завершивши за кілька останніх років навчання з інформаційного менеджменту та бібліотечних технологій у коледжі Гранта МакЮвена та з основ каталогування у Школі бібліотечної справи та інформаційних студій Університету Вісконсін–Медісон.

Щоб задовольнити потреби вчителів мови, пані Софія готує спеціалізовані бібліографічні підбірки. Серед тем – «Перші поселенці», «Св. Миколай», «Різдво», «Великдень», «Голод 1933 року», «Тарас Шевченко», «Чорнобиль», «Про козаків». Вони допомагають педагогам зорієнтуватися у наявних матеріялах бібліотеки та сформувати навчальні програми таким чином, щоб не лише навчати української мови, але й розкривати перед дитиною зміст мовлення.

Аналіз онлайнової активності відвідувачів вебсайту Методичного кабінету утвердив у необхідності швидкої комп'ютеризації бібліотеки. Перший результат – створення зручного електронного каталогу бібліотеки, який уже доступний відвідувачам у приміщенні Методичного кабінету. У плянах на найближче майбутнє – розміщення каталогу онлайн для швидкого доступу вчителів, учнів та всіх бажаючих вивчати українську мову. На вебсайті за адресою http://www.ualberta.ca/~ulec/FAQ.htm створена сторінка «Типових запитань», відповіді на які найчастіше прагнуть отримати відвідувачі бібліотеки.

Ресурси бібліотеки доступні не лише для жителів провінції Альберта, а й Канади та США. Бібліотека радо відгукується на усі запити, які найпростіше зробити електронною поштою за адресою ulec@ualberta.ca.

Зліва на право: Проф. Теофіль Кіс, амбасадор Литви Рімантас Сідлавскас, польський амбасадор д–р Павел Добровольскі й посол України в Канаді д–р Юрій Щербак.

Україна, Польща й Европа в XXI столітті

Третя лекція з Циклю «Лекції послів»

Юлія Войчишин

Амбасадорські вечорі організовані Кафедрою українських студій Оттавського університету набирають що раз то більшого розголосу і зацікавлення університетських, урядових та дипломатичних кіл, як і студентства і громадськости. Цього разу, цей вечір відбувся 16–го травня в 7:30 вечора в *The Senate Room, Tabaret Hall,* Оттавського університету. Головним доповідачем був польський амбасадор в Канаді д–р Павел Добровольскі, на тему "*Do we let history die? Ukraine, Poland and Europe in the XXI century*", що можна б довільно перекласти так: «Чи ми пустимо історію в забуття? Україна, Польща й Европа в 21–му столітті».

Вечір відкрив і представив доповідача, керівник Кафедри українських студій, професор політичних наук д–р Теофіль Кіс. Д–р Добровольскі народився у Варшаві в 1954 році. Навчався у Варшавському університеті і в Інституті історії Польської Академії Наук, де осягнув у 1983 році докторат за тезу про середньовічну англійську аристократію. Після–докторську наукову працю 1983–1985 року провів у Ватикані, як стипендіянт Папи Івана Павла II. Викладав на університетах в Кієльцах і Люблині, написав понад 40 книжок і статтей і опрацював 50 титулів у Великій польській енциклопедії. Він також був автором телевізійних виховних програм. Був генеральним консулом в Единбургу в Шкотлянді від 1990 до 1995 і заступником директора в Кабінеті міністрів 1999–2000 рр. Назначений амбасадором до Канади в 2000 році. Він – ерудит, з приємною зовнішністю та гострим дотепом.

Свою доповідь почав подаючи до відома, що польський президент 18–го квітня ц.р. висловив жаль з приводу Акції Вісла, коли то польський комуністичний уряд в 1947 р. насильно виселив 140,000 українців з південно–східних земель за захід. Він подає це як приклад складних відношень між Україною і Польщею і твердить, що мимо неспокійної історії з обох сторін, він, як історик, не радить відкидати минулого, а радше на минулих помилках навчитися співжити, бо живучи поруч – іншого нам не дано. Це зрозумів польський не–комуністичний уряд і в 1991 році Польща була першою державою, яка визнала незалежність України. Д–р Добровольскі твердить "It is firmly believed in Warsaw that independent, prosperous and democratic Ukraine enhances Poland's own sense of security". Тому Польща підтримує НАТО–Україна переговори і співпрацює з Україною в миротворчій службі в Косово.

Минулі конфлікти, на думку амбасадора, вийшли в основному з неправильних політичних потягнень обох народів. Поляки, ще творячи Польсько–Литовську державу, не подумали включити як третього партнера тодішню українську сторону, тим самим творячи федерацію трьох народів; а козаки підписавши Переяславську Угоду, стали незалежними від Польщі, але попали в ще більшу залежність від Росії. Друга світова війна загострила ці конфлікти. Польські надуживання супроти українського населення в 1930–их і 1940–их роках, уважає пан амбасадор ранніми виявами т.зв. "ethnic cleansing", тоді як поляки не можуть простити українцям вбивств на Волині і теро-ристичних акцій УПА.

Багато з того було роботою підпільних груп совєтських партизанів, щоб загострити відносини між поляками й українцями.

Під сучасну пору Польща приготовляється до вступу в Европейський Союз і в зв'язку з тим мусить упорядкувати свої границі пристосувавши свої еміграційні закони до европейських, як і уведення віз. Амбасадор обіцяв, що Польща буде підтримувати Україну і дораджувати в справах членства в Европейському Союзі. На закінчення він заявив: "Despite the rivers of blood that divided us, the Poles are willing and ready to learn how to be Ukraine's loyal neighbors and friends in the Europe of XXI century". Закінчив свій доклад д–р Добровольскі словами: «Хай живе Україна!».

Присутній на вечорі амбасадор України д–р Юрій Щербак у своїм коментарі на доклад висловив щиру подяку за об'єктивну аналітичну оцінку взаємовідносин між поляками й українцями на протязі історії, і в контексті европейського процесу інтеґрації. Він також подякував амбасадорові за його визначну діяльність у скріпленні порозуміння між Україною і Польщею. Закінчив свій коментар словами: «Хай живе Польща і хай живе Україна!».

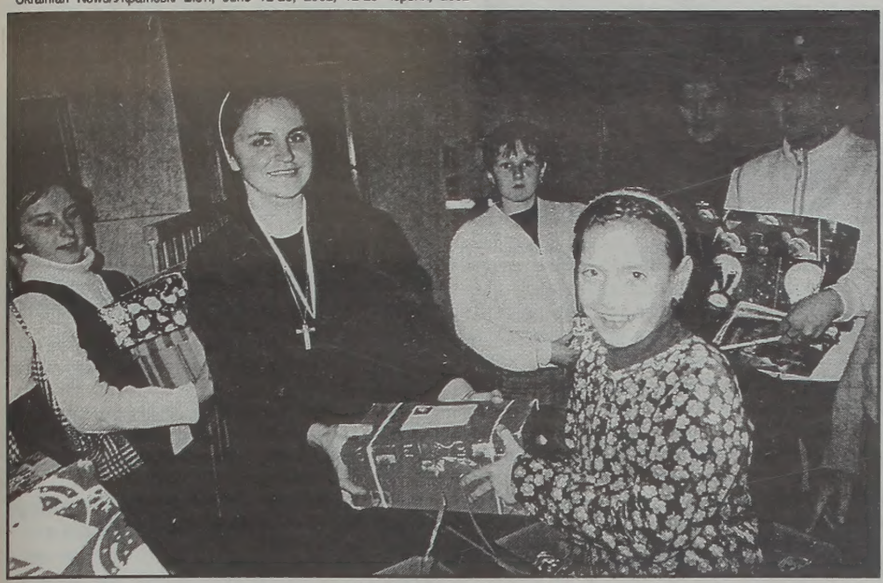
Доклад викликав живу дискусію і амбасадор відповів на багато поставлених питань. Професор Кіс привітав присутнього в залі литовського амбасадора Рімантаса Сідлавскаса і закінчив вечір подякувавши амбасадорові Добровольському за направду цікавий і корисний погляд в історію обох наших народів.

У Москві видано працю Грушевського

(КЦУМ)—У Культурному центрі України в Москві відбулась презентація книги Михайла Грушевського "История Украинского Народа", яка видана у Москві у травні цього року групою приватних видавничих та книготор–говельних фірм "Монолит-Евролинц-Традиция".

Видатний український політичний діяч та історик написав й вперше видав цю працю (під назвою "Иллюстрированная история украинского народа") у 1913 році в Санкт-Петербурзі, розраховуючи на широке ознайомлення населення колишньої Російської імперії з правдивою історією України; після цього ця книга жодного разу російською мовою не перевидавалася. У новому виданні публікуються також автобіографія М.С.Грушевського (у перекладі з української) і хроніка його життя, підготовлені до друку видавцями - Сергієм Шумовим та Олександром Андрєєвим.

Книгу представив О.Андреєв, який розповів, що видання було здійснене на комерційній основі; пробний тираж (1000 примірників) було продано менш ніж за місяць.



Sister Servants hand our presents to needy children in Lviv.

Project helps needy children in Ukraine

(UkrNews)—The Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Edmonton, together with the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate in Ukraine, have developed a program to help needy children stay at home.

As project coordinator Luba Kowalchyk explains, the program, called Meest Nadiyi (or Bridge of Hope) is designed to help children who live with one parent, or with their grandparents/

The Sister Servants provide them with food and medical supplies, so that they can stay in the homes and not be taken away to state-run institutions.

Single parents are finding it difficult to provide basic needs for their children. The children are living in poverty, suffering from malnutrition, poor housing, inadequate medial care, and little or no education.

"There are many ways that you can help a needy child," says Kowalchyk. "A group of people can donate even as little as five dollars each per month and then sponsor a child for a year, or a group of people could make a one-time donation or one individual could make a one-time donation."

The cost of sponsoring a child is C$360 a year or $30.00/month.

Ninety five percent of the funds raised go towards the children themselves. Only five percent is used to cover administrative costs.

Another of the projects the Sister Servants run are summer camps in the Carpathian Mountains for mentally challenged children.

During the summer months, the teachers who take care of these children, want to take a holiday, but the government has no place to put the children, so it places them in state psychiatric institutions.

Often these children are given medication to subdue them during the day.

The Sister Servants' solution has been to place these children in the summer camps instead of the psychiatric institutions.

For more information about the Meest Nadiyi, or Bridge of Hope, project call. (780) 424-5496.

The Last Kobzars

This is the name of the CD, which contains rare recordings of three bandurists — Yehor Movchan, Yevhen Adamcevych and Heorhiy Tkachenko — all who died in the 1960's.

Their artistic activity symbolize the end of the kobzar's epoch and change to contemporary professional bandura performance.

Tkachenko was born in 1898 and lived until the age of 95, knowingly having called himself the last old-world bandurist. Folklorists considered his interpretation of Ukrainian epic ballads, also called dumas, to be rare living relics.

Tkachenko followed the footsteps of the well-known kobzars such as Petro Drevchenko, Ivan Kachuhura-Kucherenko, and Hnat Khotkevych, with whom fate brought him together in Kharkiv. He studied the original style of playing bandura called "Zinkiv" teachings, what is now called "Kharkiv style".

There will be a surprise on this disc: Tkachenko's description of the kobzar brotherhood, something that might be very helpful for teachers educating youth.

Native ballads and songs had been restored and the recordings now offer a higher quality of reproduction. When listening to this CD, you will undoubtedly feel the Ukrainian past coming alive.

THE LAST KOBZARS

This is the name of the CD, which contains rare recordings of three bandurists - Yehor Movchan, Yevhen Adamcevych and Heorhiy Tkachenko - all who died in the 1960's.

Get you copy of *The Last Kobzars* CD from Ola Ollynyk, 5253 Glancy Drive, Carmichael, CA 95608-5458 for $15 + $1.50 for shipping.

Ukrainian Book Store launches campaign to stock library with Ukrainian-language books

(UkrNews)—The Ukrainian Book Store has begun a campaign to stock the Edmonton Public Library up with books in Ukrainian.

Throughout the month of June, the Book Store will match any book bought for the public library in its store, with one it will donate on its own.

Elena Scharabun, manager of the Ukrainian Book Store, told Ukrainian News the purpose of this campaign is to build up the collection of Ukrainian-language books in the library.

"The Downtown Branch does not even have a full shelf of Ukrainian books," she said.

This is mainly due to the fact that for a number of years now, the library has not had a lot of funds for second-language books other than French, she explained.

Most of the Ukrainian-language books currently in the Edmonton Public Library are as much as 20 years old.

"They get ratty and then they get thrown away," she said.

Providing Ukrainian-language books will not only help senior citizens, but also recent immigrants and children.

What the library needs most are adult fiction books, history, literature and children's books, Scharabun says.

All donors will be acknowledges with a tax receipt.

Scharabun says this year's program is a testing ground to see whether it may be continues in the future.

New impeachment effort aimed at Kuchma

(RFE/RL)—Lawmakers from the Yuliya Tymoshenko Bloc — including Yuliya Tymoshenko, Hryhoriy Omelchenko, and Anatoliy Matviyenko — have submitted to the Verkhovna Rada a draft bill called "On the Initiation of Impeachment of President Leonid Kuchma and the Creation of a Special Temporary Investigative Commission," UNIAN reported on June 10.

The "Ukrayinska pravda" website commented the same day that the impeachment issue is likely to be put on the parliamentary agenda (150 votes are necessary for this purpose) but added that there is "no hope" that the bill can muster 226 votes necessary for starting the impeachment process.

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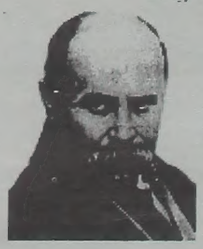

Купіть одну книжку для бібліотеки, а Українська Книгарня пожертвує другу.

- Program will run for the month of June 2002.
- Donors will be acknowledged and tax receipts will be issued.
- Adult fiction, history, literature, childrens books.

- Програма продовжується черес місяць червень 2002.
- Жертводавці будуть відзначені та отримають податкові посвідки.
- Потрібні повісті для дорослих, історія, література, та дитячі книжки.

Briefly

Zhanna wins at Milan

World champion Zhanna Pintusevich beat Mercy Nku in a head wind to win the women's 100-meter dash in the opening event of the IAAF Milan meet in Milan's Arena, June 5, reported the Associated Press. The Ukrainian sprinter, who spoiled Marion Jones quest for a triple gold in the World Championships at Edmonton, was timed in 11.19 seconds. Nku, of Nigeria, did 11.27 and third-place Juliet Campbell of Jamaica clocked 11.43.

Lisogor defeats Malek

World champion Oleg Lisogor of the Ukraine defeated Daniel Malek of the Czech Republic in the final of the men's 50-metre breaststroke at the Mare Nostrum swimming series in Monte Carlo, June 2. Lisogor clocked a meet record 27.86 and Malek touched in 28.3, reported the Canadian Press.

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Shakhtar Donetsk win first Ukraine title

Shakhtar Donetsk, perennial runners-up to Dynamo Kyiv, clinched their first Ukrainian title with a 1-0 win at Zakarpattya Uzhhorod, reported Reuters.

Shakhtar, who had finished a closed second to Dynamo for the last five seasons, finally broke the nine-year championship reign of their arch-rivals on the last day of the league season.

Ukraine under-21 international Olexei Belik scored the 55th-minute winner against relegation-bound Zakarpattya to give Shakhtar 66 points after 26 matches.

Dynamo had to settle for second place, a point behind, after beating second-from-the-bottom Poligraftekhnika Olixandria 3-0.

It was the first-ever title for Shakhtar in the 68-year history of what was originally a mining club which played in the old Soviet Union premier league.

Dynamo won a record 13 Soviet titles between 1961 and 1991.

As a result of the final standings, Shakhtar will start in the 3rd Qualifying Round of the Uefa Champions League.

Dynamo will start in the 2nd Qualifying Round of the Uefa Champions League.

Metalurh D will start in the 1st Round of the Uefa Cup.

Metalist will start in the Qualifying Round of the Uefa Cup.

Sports

Polihraftechnika will play in a play-off against Polissia (UFL) to determine who will play for in the UPL next year.

Zakarpattia is demoted to the Ukrainian First League.

SC Volyn-1, Chornomorets, and Obolon have already been promoted to the UPL.

Ukrainian Premier League Final Standings

Team	G	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Shakhtar	26	20	6	0	49	10	66
Dynamo	26	20	5	1	62	9	65
Metalurh D	26	12	6	8	38	28	42
Metalist	26	11	7	8	35	36	40
Metalurh Z	26	11	7	8	25	22	40
Dnipro	26	11	7	8	30	20	40
Tavria	26	8	6	12	27	36	30
Karpaty	26	7	8	11	19	31	29
Kryvbas	26	6	10	10	28	40	28
Metalurh M	26	6	8	12	29	42	26
Vorskla	26	6	7	13	19	33	25
Arsenal	26	6	5	15	18	28	23
Polihraftechnika	26	5	8	13	21	39	23
Zakarpattia	26	5	6	15	23	49	21

Klitschko brothers impressed with Lewis win over Tyson

WBO heavyweight champion Vladimir Klitschko of Ukraine has praised Briton Lennox Lewis's eighth-round knockout of Mike Tyson in Memphis on June 8, reports Reuters.

Vladimir, who was at ringside for the WBC and IBF heavyweight showdown along with his brother, Vitali, a former WBO heavyweight champion and current No. 2 contender, said after the bout: "Lennox Lewis fought a very, smart technical fight."

Vladimir, who makes the fourth defence of his WBO title against Ray Mercer in Atlantic City on June 29, said: "I was very impressed (with Lewis).

"I expected Tyson to be very dangerous in the first three rounds and then Lewis to take control in the mid-to-late rounds, but Lewis took command even earlier than that.

"Tyson wants a rematch but after this I doubt anybody would want to see it. I would love for Lewis to fight me or my brother, Vitali."

Vitali, who faces Larry Donald in Dortmund, Germany on July 20, said: "It was an interesting fight, but I was not surprised.

"Lennox Lewis is very smart and he fought an excellent fight. I am not sure he got caught with one clean punch. He threw nice combinations and dominated.

"I have studied Lewis for a long time, however, and he does make some mistakes that I feel I could take advantage of. I am not going to explain or talk about them, but if we ever fight I know I will make him pay for them."

Wolfsburg's Klimowicz targets Ukraine side

(Sports Network)—Argentina is regarded as among the favorite to win the FIFA World Cup this summer, yet some players from the South American country seem interested in exploring less obvious avenues within international football.

Four Argentinean players, including the highly-rated VfL Wolfsburg forward Diego Klimowicz, have expressed their desire to play for the land of their fathers, Ukraine. Klimowicz, who arrived in the First Bundesliga from AC Lanus this season, has enjoyed a sensational start to his European career, scoring ten times in his first 16 games. Previously the 27-year-old forward also played for Rayo Vallecano and Real Valladolid in Spain.

"I would be flattered to join the Ukraine squad, because this is the homeland of my ancestors," Klimowicz said. "I know Ukrainians were looking at several Argentineans, including me. I think this deserves to be discussed in detail."

Ukraine coach Leonid Buryak has admitted his interest and is set to investigate further the possibility of adding Klimowicz and three of his fellow countrymen to his squad.

"We know too little now, but we are certainly interested," he said. "We will meet them and will try to find a common ground."

Aside from Klimowicz, Ukraine is also tracking the progress of three other Argentineans — Patricio Camps of Club Atlético Vélez Sársfield, Club Atlético Lanus player Julián Kmet and José Chatruc of Racing Club.

Pintusevich, Skvaruk win

Ukraine's Zhanna Pintusevich was pushed hard in the women's 100 metres by France's Muriel Hurtis, who shattered her own personal best by 0.19 seconds, at the Athens Grand Prix, June 10, reported Reuters.

But the Ukrainian won in a time of 11.02 seconds, while Hurtis clocked 11.06 seconds.

"I'm not very satisfied. I was expecting a time below 11 seconds," Pintusevich said.

Meanwhile, Ukrainian hammer thrower Andrey Skvaruk squeezed past 39-year-old Igor Astapkovich from Belarus and Seville Grand Prix winner Adrian Annus of Hungary with an impressive 81.71 throw on his final attempt.

Positive ruling for Epic Energy attributed to Klein's visit

Business

(UkrNews)—Ronald Cormick, President of Calgary-based Epic Energy Inc. reports that its Ukrainian subsidiary, KrymTexasNafta, has received a major positive ruling from the Ukraine State Tax Administration concerning the company's qualifications for tax exemptions under the Ukraine Presidential Decree #433/96. Local, Crimean tax authorities had charged the company with back taxes, penalties, and interest based upon their re-interpretation of the exemption issued to the company in November 1997.

The company's oil and gas licenses that had expired during this period could not be re-issued until the outstanding tax controversy was resolved. The major ruling found that the exemption was valid and the re-interpretation by the local tax authorities was in error. KrymTexasNafta management is working closely with the regional tax administration for an amicable solution of crediting overpayments against the company's present and future tax liabilities.

"This favourable ruling will nee to be implemented as quickly as possible within the existing legal framework of Ukrainian Tax legislation," said the recently elected Director of Epic's subsidiary, KrymTexasNafta, Taras Soltys, in a company press release.

According to Cormick, the significance of this ruling should not be under-estimated. There is a number of other oil and gas companies whose economic viability is based upon this same tax exemption. Several of these companies are partly owned by Canadian investors. Cormick added: "It was probably no coincidence for this very significant ruling that positively impacts future investment in Ukraine's oil and gas industry to occur in concert with Premier Klein's visit to Ukraine". Cormick noted that Epic Energy is an Alberta company whose investments in Ukraine have been very substantial (second-largest of all foreign investors in Ukraine's oil industry).

Epic has prepared and presented important new investment initiatives in Crimea and other parts of Ukraine for review by a European investor group with whom the Company has been negotiating during the past few months. It appears much more likely that the Company will proceed with these plans now that the Ukrainian officials have delivered such a key signal indicating that the Country will honor the Company's rights and protect its current investments.

Restoration of KrymTexasNafta's operating licenses is now considered by the Company's executive management to be imminent, allowing for immediate re-establishment of work on existing operations and for the new exploration, development and production of its other oil and gas properties as approved at the recently-held, KrymTexasNafta shareholders meeting.

Agro cooperation with Canada grows

(Eastern Economist)—Ukraine and Canada plan to widen cooperation in the field of agriculture, said Deputy Premier Leonid Kozachenko at a meeting with Canadian Ambassador to Ukraine Andrew Robinson, June 7.

Kozachenko said Canada was interested in the development of a bio-fuel made of rape methyl ether in Ukraine, and a joint venture plans to build several plants for methyl ether production in the country.

A project on detoxifying land polluted by the Chornobyl accident by growing rapeseed is being planned.

Kozachenko stressed the government would cooperate with Canadians to establish the National Agricultural Consulting Service, programs on mortgage crediting and the development of breeding cattle for meat.

Robinson said cooperation in agriculture had a good future.

Obolon increases production 13%

((Eastern Economist)—Obolon has increased production volumes by 13.6% over the five months of 2002 compared to the same period last year.

During this period, the company produced about 24,213,700 dal of beverages, including 15,459,000 dal of beer, which exceeds production figures of the same period in 2001 by 12%.

The production of mineral water during the first five months of 2002 increased 35.1% to 2,735,400 dal, low-alcoholic beverages by 41.8% to 2,479,800 dal, soft drinks by 23.3% to 3,539,500 dal.

Obolon beer controls up to 27.6% of the domestic beer market. Obolon President Oleksandr Slobodian said the company would increase production volumes 10% in 2002. Obolon launched a new, 20,000 bottles/hr production line in March.

To date, this line is the most powerful in the country, said Slobodian.

Putin, Kuchma sign gas consortium agreement

(Eastern Economist)—Russian President Vladimir Putin and Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma signed a statement on strategic cooperation in the gas sphere which foresees the establishment of an international gas consortium, June 10.

They instructed the Ukrainian and Russian governments to prepare an agreement on bilateral cooperation. The agreement will aim to increase the effective use of Ukrainian gas pipelines and the uninterrupted transit of gas through Ukraine to European destinations.

Russian Deputy Premier Viktor Khrystenko said he thought the statement would provide for a long-term, secure supply of gas to Europe. He said Russia considered the Ukrainian gas-transit system a key element of this security.

SDPU(o) leader Viktor Medvedchuk said the Verkhovna Rada would ratify the Russian-Ukrainian agreement on strategic cooperation. He said the agreement was supported by Yedyna Ukraina, SDPU(o) and the CPU. He said Ukraine needed this agreement more than Russia. CPU leader Petro Symonenko said an international gas consortium would serve Ukraine's national interests, as Russia and Ukraine would both be responsible for the operation of the Ukrainian gas transport system. He said this would exclude shady dealers from the gas market.

However, SPU Deputy Iosyp Vinskiy said that with the advent of an international gas consortium, Ukraine would lose a strategic card — its gas transporting system. He said the establishment of the consortium was in fact the privatization of state property. He said the Socialists would not support the consortium.

The Yulia Tymoshenko faction will also vote against ratification of the consortium, said Deputy Oleksandr Turchynov. He said the Ukrainian gas transport system was a strategic object and it should belong to Ukraine.

Briefly

Ukraine hopes Poland will speed WTO bid

(Eastern Economist)—Ukraine has asked Poland to speed up negotiations regarding Ukraine's entrance to the WTO, particularly the signing of the bilateral agreement on access to goods and services markets, said Economy Minister Oleksandr Shlapak during Ukrainian-Polish talks on trade and economic cooperation, June 3. Shlapak thanked the Polish government for its support of Ukraine's efforts to enter the WTO and expressed a desire to see further assistance in this area.

Petroleum production increases 50%

(Eastern Economist)—The production of automobile petroleum in January-April 2002 increased by 50% compared to the same period last year. The production of diesel fuel grew by 1.6%. Energy production fell by 0.7% in the country during the first four months of 2002.

Lumber sales up

(Eastern Economist)—Ukraine received US$51.8 million from lumber sales in 2001, compared to $45 million in 2000, reported State Forestry Committee Chair Mykola Kolisnychenko, June 4. Kolisnychenko said that last year the country had stored 11.4 million cu m of wood and exported 1.3 million cu m abroad.

Poland confirms Brody-Gdansk interest

(RFE/RL)—Poland's Premier Leszek Miller on June 3 commented on new positive developments in Ukrainian-Polish relations over the last several years and added that further development in relations between the two countries was necessary.

Miller said turnover in goods between Poland and Ukraine in 2001 totaled US$1.480 billion, with Polish export equaling $1 billion.

Noting Poland's past investment in Ukraine, Miller said Poland was keen on making further investments.

He confirmed the country's interest in Odesa-Brody-Gdansk pipeline oil project and said Poland should introduce less expensive, multi-entry visas for Ukrainians.

Ternopil textiles work at full capacity

(Eastern Economist)—Ternopil textile producers have started to work on full capacity.

Open AT Teksterno has experienced difficult times in the last few years: it lost sales markets, cut production and suffered from the "brain drain."

Only after production was restructured, the plant paid off its energy debt and began to increase production.

In 2001, it increased production 46%. 80% of domestic printed cotton is Ternopil-made.

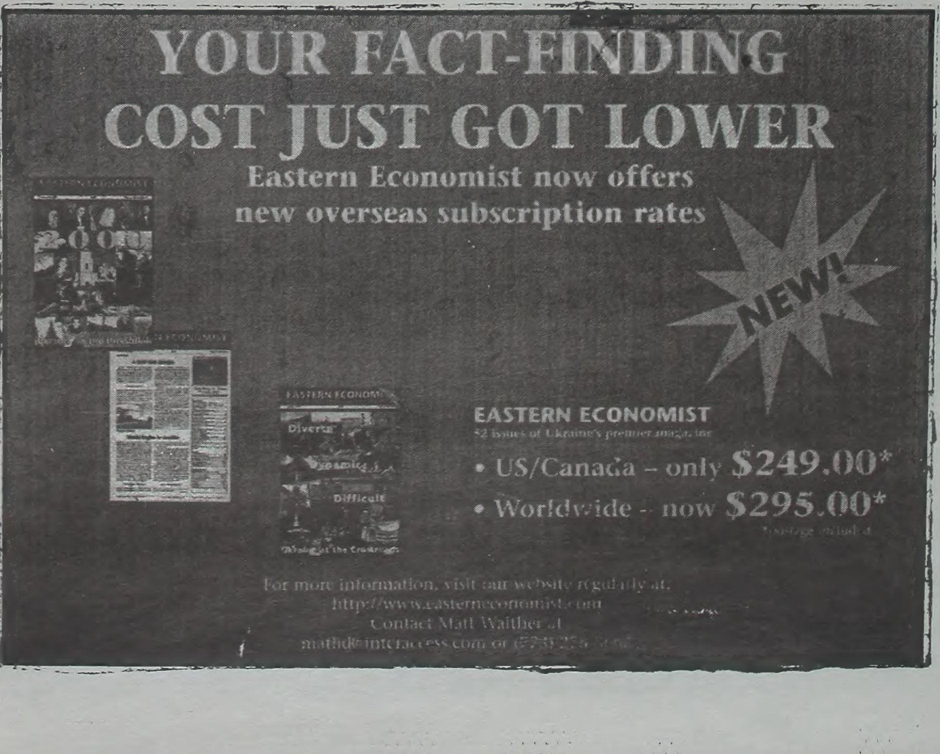
Teksterno board director, Lidia Sozanska, maintains that the government should provide a state order for Teksterno products for the Internal Affairs Ministry, Defense Ministry, UkrZaliznytsia, Health Care Ministry and so on, to support the domestic producer.

Grain export expected to grow

(Eastern Economist)—To date, Ukraine has exported 8.5 million tons of grain. 9 million tons of grain is to be exported by the end of this marketing year, or July 1.

The state company Khlib Ukrainy predicts that in 3-4 years, domestic grain production will increase to 50 million tons, and exports will grow to 14-15 million tons. The 2001 grain harvest was approximately 40 million tons, compared to 24.4 million tons in 2000.

Premier Anatoliy Kinakh said Khlib Ukrainy could be privatized, but added the government would still have influence and control over the company's activities. Kinakh said such control was necessary considering the importance of the grain crops market.



Loser takes all: Pro-Kuchma forces gain parliamentary leadership

By Dr. Taras Kuzio

(RFE/RL)—On May 28, after over a week of intrigue and interfaction squabbles, the Verkhovna Rada finally selected candidates to fill its three key positions. Aside from the 177 votes from the pro-presidential For a United Ukraine, which has been renamed United Ukraine, and 31 votes from the oligarchic Social Democratic Party of Ukraine-united (SDPU-o), the vote was carried by seven Our Ukraine deputies who were immediately expelled from that faction, as well as Communists "loaned" for the vote. A parliamentary leadership package proposed by United Ukraine and the SDPU-o was endorsed by 226 votes, the minimum number required for approval.

The election resulted in two eastern Ukrainian pro-presidential and oligarchic groups, United Ukraine and the SDPU-o, taking full control of all three chairman and deputy chairman positions. Volodymyr Lytvyn, the head of the presidential administration and United Ukraine faction, became Verkhovna Rada chairman followed by Hennadiy Vasylyev, a member of the oligarchical Labor Ukraine party, as first deputy chairman and with the post of deputy Verkhovna Rada chairman going to Oleksandr Zinchenko, the deputy head of the SDPU-o. Zinchenko was head of the SDPU-o faction in the 1998-2002 parliament and is honorary president of Inter Television, which broadcasts mainly in Russian to eastern Ukraine.

This vote brought President Leonid Kuchma one step closer to what he failed to obtain in 1996 with his Russian-style constitution, which led him to initiate an internationally unrecognized referendum in April 2000 designed to turn Ukraine into a presidential republic with a malleable Verkhovna Rada. Vasylyev's position was in gratitude to the Donetsk clan, the only region where For a United Ukraine finished first in the March 31 elections.

In the party-list vote in the March elections, For a United Ukraine finished only third with 11.81 percent, compared to Viktor Yushchenko's Our Ukraine's with 23.65 percent. On the basis of these results, Yushchenko proposed after the election that because Our Ukraine won the elections, it should be the basis for creating a Verkhovna Rada majority. In a joint statement on April 26, Our Ukraine, the Communists (which polled 20.4 percent), the Yuliya Tymoshenko Bloc (7.21 percent), and Socialists (6.93 percent) said that they won the elections, which was a defeat for the authorities.

But Lytvyn and Kuchma disagreed, as did Russian President Vladimir Putin. Their shared understanding of the elections was that For a United Ukraine had won. Lytvyn based his argument on the fact that his faction had become the largest in the Verkhovna Rada after the elections by virtue of inducing or blackmailing the majority of deputies elected in majoritarian districts into its ranks. Through these tactics United Ukraine has been able to increase its faction from 102 deputies to being the largest with 182 deputies (compared to the 111 in Our Ukraine).

The hundreds of hours of tapes illicitly made in Kuchma's office by his security guard, Mykola Melnychenko, reveal how the tactics used to obtain Lytvyn's election as Verkhovna Rada chairman have been a consistent feature in what has been defined as a "blackmail state." In a recent study in "East European Constitutional Review," Yale Professor Keith Darden concludes that blackmail is used to secure political control. This is undertaken by tolerating "pervasive corruption" as "an essential element in an informal technique of presidential control" through the collection of evidence of corruption by the Security Service and the Internal Affairs Ministry.

This system is especially effective in ensuring compliance by businessmen who tend to be elected in majoritarian districts as "independents." In a taped conversation between oligarch Oleksandr Volkov and Kuchma in July 2000, Volkov was asked why he was in favor of lifting deputies' immunity. He reasoned that "there is only one immunity for deputies and that is you. Everything else is crap." Since the elections, many independent deputies have been invited to the Prosecutor-General's Office and warned that it possessed files on them. Leonid Hadyatskyy admitted that he had left the Socialist Party caucus to join United Ukraine "in order to save himself and his family."

Darden concludes that "corruption and illegality" in Ukraine are "accepted, condoned, and even encouraged by the top leadership." Volkov, for example, was given a state medal by Kuchma in February 2001 for his services to the Ukrainian economy, even though he is wanted by Belgian police on money-laundering charges and his trial in absentia is to begin next month in Brussels.

As long as businessmen continue to remain loyal to Kuchma, the files collected by the Security Service and Internal Affairs Ministry will not be used by the Prosecutor-General's Office or the Tax Administration to destroy their businesses. One month after the elections, all criminal charges of "corruption" were dropped against Yuliya Tymoshenko and her husband. Volodymyr Shcherban, one of the seven deputies expelled from Our Ukraine for voting for Lytvyn as Verkhovna Rada chairman, said after the vote that, "I did not come here today to parliament to fight with the authorities for two years." Shcherban is the leader of the Liberals, the former Donetsk "party of power," and a wealthy businessman.

The "blackmail state" places the Our Ukraine bloc in a predicament. Volkov has pointed out that it cannot join the opposition because this would lead to its businessmen and bankers being subjected to pressure from the enforcers of the "blackmail state." Although Yushchenko has deliberately never criticized Kuchma and has refrained from calling Our Ukraine an "opposition" bloc, his ability to maneuver between the pro-presidential/oligarchic and opposition forces may be coming to an end.

Earlier this month, Yushchenko warned that if Lytvyn, as leader of a defeated bloc, were to be elected Verkhovna Rada chairman that Yushchenko would take Our Ukraine into opposition. That warning was prompted by Kuchma's rejection of a compromise proposal whereby Yushchenko would become prime minister and Lytvyn Verkhovna Rada chairman, an arrangement that would have given Yushchenko an excellent base from which to be elected president in 2004.

Yushchenko had already concluded prior to the May 28 vote that "the political crisis in Ukraine has turned out to be much deeper than I had imagined." In a statement after Lytvyn's election, Our Ukraine said that he was "appointed" Verkhovna Rada chairman, not voted in, and that the entire process showed a lack of respect for deputies and voters. The "administrative resources" that were used so heavily by Kuchma in the elections to secure For a United Ukraine votes were again used inside the Verkhovna Rada, the statement continued. Our Ukraine believes that the Rada has "in effect turned into a subsection of the presidential administration."

If Our Ukraine does go into opposition, Ukraine would have a parliament dominated by two eastern Ukrainian pro-Kuchma and oligarchic groups who lost the elections, while western-central Ukraine would be in opposition to the executive. SDPU-o head Viktor Medvedchuk is unconcerned by this possible turn of events because he is convinced that a new Rada majority will be created on the basis of the United Ukraine-SDPU-o alliance to implement the president's wishes.

These steps by Kuchma and Lytvyn will only serve to make the outcome of the 2004 presidential ballot — in which Kuchma may not seek a further term — even more unpredictable and Ukrainians more angry. Our Ukraine's proposals for cooperation on deep political, social, and economic reforms were turned down by Kuchma's United Ukraine.

(Dr. Taras Kuzio is a resident fellow at the Centre for Russian and East European studies, University of Toronto.)

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